

## ELIZABETH'S STORY

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## Modern commandments set out

# Schools must teach new code of values

By DAVID CHARTER AND JILL SHERMAN

SCHOOLS must adopt a modern ten commandments to give children a moral grounding and teach them the difference between right and wrong, the Government's chief curriculum adviser will say today.

The rules should be agreed nationally and set in stone to underpin everything taught in schools, Dr Nick Tate will tell a conference in London today.

His strategy to help schools to fill a void left by the diminishing authority of the Church and decline in traditional family values will be outlined as Labour develops its plans to improve children's behaviour.

These include using retired people to supervise troublesome children at "homework clubs", encouraging young adults to help out in schools, and making "citizen's service" a part of the school curriculum.

Dr Tate, chief executive of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, says that some schools already have statements of values for their pupils, but he believes the idea should be extended nationally.

"There is no doubt we have lost the robust intellectual basis for our moral life we once had," he said. "If values are universal things and not just the tastes and cultural preferences of particular

groups, we may need some broader national agreement on those values that society is authorising schools to teach."

Once agreed, the code would be non-negotiable. His suggested commandments would cover:

- Honesty;
- Respect for others;
- Politeness;
- A sense of fair play;
- Forgiveness;
- Punctuality;
- Non-violent behaviour;
- Patience;
- Faithfulness;
- Self-discipline.

"People have been arguing about and formulating these things for 3,000 years or more," he said. "But this would have the symbolic significance of the country saying 'we are behind you schools' in trying to promote these things."

Dr Tate also believes that personal and social education, traditionally a weekly session to discuss morality, health and sexuality, should have a more formal aim. He says its main priorities should include "contributing to society's efforts to maintain structures centred on the two-parent family".

He said: "I don't think schools have always thought through how they are using this time. Without a structure it can degenerate into an incoherent mishmash. The objectives need to be much more

prescriptive than they have been because there are certain values that we want to transmit."

Labour's education spokesman, David Blunkett, also spoke yesterday of his plans to help schools and the community work together to improve standards. Last month, he published a paper outlining home-school contracts where parents would be required to promise that their children would complete work given.

Now he says that parents who failed to do so would be advised that a "mentor" would take over the responsibility. Such mentors were likely to be retired people who would act as volunteers supervising children in "homework clubs".

These would probably be in schools, and would be designed to help children who do not have the space or privacy to do their homework at home. He is also exploring other ideas to improve discipline in schools and broaden skills. He is keen on encouraging both unemployed youths and students in higher and further education to help out in schools and he is looking at a scheme developed by the Community Service Volunteers where university students spend half a day a week helping secondary school children with projects or tasks in subjects of which they have some knowledge.



Johanne Masheder and the Thai monk who police say admitted killing her in caves near his temple after stealing her money to buy drugs

## Drugged monk 'killed British tourist'

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN KANCHANABURI, THAILAND  
RICHARD DUCE

A BUDDHIST monk murdered the missing British lawyer Johanne Masheder during a robbery close to the site of the Bridge on the River Kwai, Thai police said yesterday.

The monk, a convicted rapist, is said to have confessed to killing Miss Masheder, 23, while high on drugs. Her body was found in a ravine near a

Buddhist temple in Kanchanaburi, west of Bangkok.

Miss Masheder, of Wincle, Cheshire, who was on a three month round-the-world trip, was last seen alive in early December. Her parents went to Thailand ten days after her last telephone call to them on December 7 and yesterday Mr Masheder identified his daughter's body.

Police named the monk as Phra Yodcharu Suaphoo, 21, who admitted pushing Miss

Masheder down a ravine. The monk, an amphetamine addict, had previously spent two years in jail for rape.

Tests showed that Miss Masheder, a law graduate from York University who was about to start work as a trainee solicitor, had been raped but Suaphoo denied this. Three other monks were questioned but later released.

The breakthrough in the search for Miss Masheder came when a local teacher

recalled meeting her on December 9 and introducing her to a £5-a-night guesthouse overlooking the River Kwai.

Next day Miss Masheder cycled three miles to the Allied War Cemetery at Chongkai and then to the Buddhist Temple of Tham Kaapoon to see its famous caves.

At the entrance she met Suaphoo who told police: "I got up and offered to show her around. She was alone. A very beautiful girl. I took her round

the first cave and then offered to show her the other. We were above a cave looking down and I suddenly said 'Look there'. She looked down and I pushed her grabbing her bag and camera. She fell 30 feet. The cave was just full of rubbish. I pushed her to the side so she could not be seen from above and then climbed out. She had very little, just 500 Baht (£12) and a camera."

Parents' anguish, page 3

## War of nerves over hostages

The war of nerves over Chechen rebels' seizure of hostages in Southern Russia entered its sixth day with the Russians putting on a fresh show of armed force. But after two deadlines for the release of the hostages had expired, the Chechens were given a further night to meet Moscow's conditions.

Hundreds of Russian troops armed with anti-tank rockets, and armoured personnel carriers, were moved closer to the village of Pervomayskoye near the Dagestan border with Chechnya, where the rebels are holed up with more than 100 hostages. Page 10

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## Long delays in test dates drive learners to despair

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A STAMPEDE of tens of thousands of learner drivers desperate to take their tests before the summer has been triggered by the Government's announcement that they will have to sit a written examination from July 1.

Driving schools in major cities such as London, Birmingham and Newcastle have reported chaos as the Driving Standards Agency, which runs the tests, has struggled to cope with the massive surge in applications.

BSM, the biggest driving school in the world, is threatening to sue the agency because it has been so angered by the number of £28.50 tests being cancelled at short notice as a result of the shortage of examiners. Average waiting times for tests have risen from about six weeks to two or three months

in the worst affected areas. The longest reported delay is four months.

A spokeswoman for the agency, which lost its Charter Mark last year because of the lengthening waiting lists, said the backlog of unprocessed applications had grown by 30,000 to 245,000 over the year to last November.

The situation has been exacerbated by a reduction in full-time examiners, which has forced the agency to train 160 new part-time replacements, and a teething problem with a high-tech telephone enquiry system.

Michael Moylan, the manager of the Baker Street branch of BSM, in central London, said: "We are almost at the stage where we can hardly conduct our business, we are being tortured here."

Mr Moylan said learner

drivers were being reduced to tears by the delays, often taking it out on their instructors. The agency had also frequently lost application forms, cashed test fees when no dates had been set and had made it almost impossible for candidates to get through on the telephone, he said.

"Of all the times to change the phone numbers, why did they wait until the eve of the announcement of the written test to do it? We knew there would be an increase in business, why didn't they? Whoever is making the policy decisions must have his judgment questioned."

Nusrat Arif, 19, a student from Brent, in north London, said she had twice turned up to the test centre in Mill Hill, only to be told that her appointment had been cancelled at the last minute.

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Take a friend to the theatre for 30p  
Details, page 35

## Lottery superdraw to top up prizes

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CAMELOT is to introduce special weekly "superdraws" in the next six months, with prizes boosted by National Lottery reserve funds.

The scheme will mean that instead of the typical weekly prize pool of £12 million, Camelot will be able to guarantee a much bigger payout, expected to be in the region of £20 million to £25 million.

Provision for superdraws was written into Camelot's licence to give the company the flexibility to boost the jackpot and introduce more variety and excitement into the game. So far, the unusually high number of rollover weeks — when the jackpot is carried over for up to three draws — have meant that the company has not had to use the gimmick.

However, Camelot's director of communications said the number of rollovers was

expected to decline sharply in the next six to 12 months.

"There was no jackpot winner in last Saturday's draw meaning that we have yet another rollover this week, the third in four weeks," David Rigg said. "This is a statistical freak. In fact the experience of lotteries all over the world is that the number of rollovers decline the longer the game has been running."

When a lottery is new, players tend to choose "lucky numbers" based on birthdays and anniversaries. This means that a disproportionately high number of combinations chosen focus on low numbers. As a result, only a small proportion of the possible 14 million lottery combinations are chosen in any one week. This proportion is called

Continued on page 2, col 3

Lottery numbers, page 20

## Chaotic result for Rugby

A special meeting in Birmingham yesterday rejected the Rugby Football Union's response to the introduction of the new open game and the assembly broke up in chaos. The RFU's response to the declaration by the International Rugby Football Board was firmly defeated as was the RFU's nominee as chairman of the executive committee. Page 22

## Pensions plea

Angela Knight, the Treasury Minister, has called on all parties who were involved in the £4 billion personal pensions misselling scandal to work together to compensate up to one million victims such as nurses, police officers and local authority employees. Page 40

## Internet Times

The Internet edition of The Times is now available on http://www.the-times.co.uk



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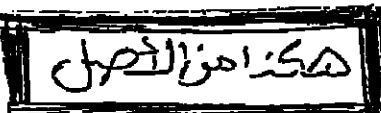
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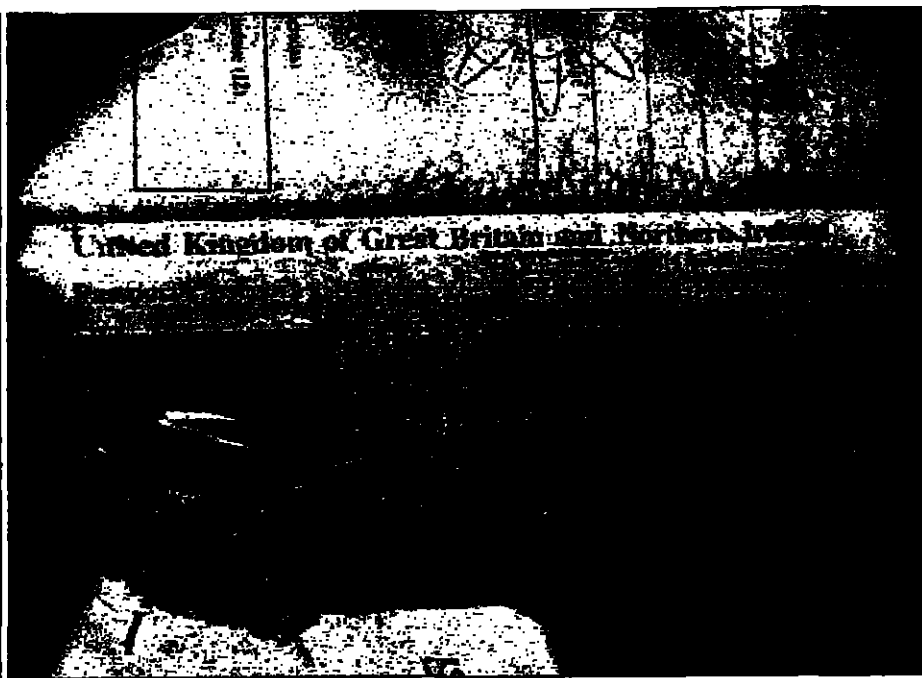
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One of the last pictures of Johanne, taken on an elephant trek in northern Thailand. The burnt remains of her passport, found near her body and, right, Stuart Masheder, who flew to Thailand to join the search for his daughter

## Couple's hunt for devoted daughter ends in heartache

By RICHARD DUCE

AN AGONISING two-week search by the parents of Johanne Masheder for their lost daughter ended yesterday with the discovery of her body near a Buddhist temple in Thailand. Stuart and Jackie Masheder had kept up their hopes that Johanne had simply decided to extend her three-month round the world travel plans that had already taken her to Fiji, New Zealand and Canada.

Realistically, they knew that something untoward must have happened to a devoted daughter who was looking forward to a legal career and would not intentionally miss the chance to spend Christmas at home with her family in

Cheshire. Mr Masheder, the business manager of a chemical company, and his wife became alarmed after last hearing from their daughter on December 7 in a call from Chiang Mai in northern Thailand where she was elephant trekking. Rather than wait for news, they flew to Thailand to help the search.

Mrs Masheder said soon after arriving: "I'm happier here. At least I feel I can do something." The couple believed their daughter to be heading for the island of Ko Samui, a known haunt of backpackers. Mr Masheder, 49, was an inconspicuous figure on the island beaches, where, armed with a photograph of his eldest daughter he tackled people for information. He

hired private investigators and placed adverts in newspapers.

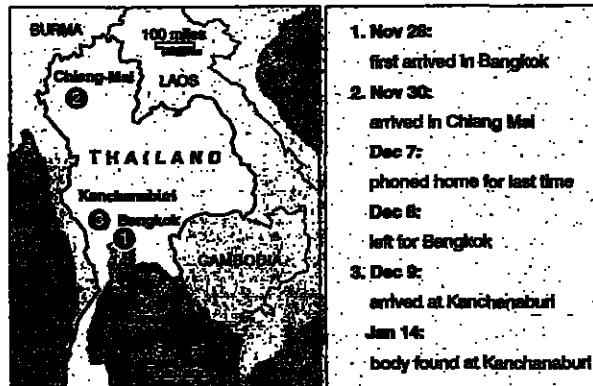
However Miss Masheder at first appeared to have changed her plans by buying a travel ticket for the island of Ko Samet, much closer to Bangkok. A sighting of her on the island on December 17 now seems to be mistaken. It now appears that she made straight for Kanchanaburi from Bangkok where she was seen on December 9th.

She had left her rucksack in the storage room of a travel agency in Bangkok planning to collect it for her scheduled flight home on December 21. Photographs of Miss Masheder's trip to northern Thailand have been developed from two rolls of film in the

bag. There were fleeting hopes they could help police trace her whereabouts but they have now become Mr and Mrs Masheder's final pictures of their daughter.

After Christmas with her family Miss Masheder, a law graduate from York university, had planned to start work with the London firm of Cameron Markby Hewitt on December 28. The likelihood is that some two weeks before then, the independent young woman was killed by the Buddhist monk who has confessed to her murder.

Miss Masheder was one of hundreds of thousands of young Britons who seek adventure in exotic corners of the globe. One in seven students takes time off or a "gap year"



to travel to exotic places either before or after their University course and Thailand is generally considered to be one of the safer destinations for backpackers. David Creffield, edi-

tor of *Overseas Jobs Express*, said yesterday: "I don't believe that it is more dangerous to go abroad nowadays, but there are more young people travelling every year, and they are

searching out more remote destinations. These youngsters want to go somewhere where no-one else goes, so they are among the first Westerners into former war zones or newly-opened tribal areas. They are idealistic and full of good feelings towards their fellow man. They don't invest enough thought and preparation in their own safety."

It is not uncommon on Thailand for convicted criminals to become monks because it is often the only way they can stay alive. In a land where Buddhist monks are revered, they live off the charity of others. Many monks can be seen with full body tattoos — a sign of their previous lives in Thai Mafia gangs. Drug addicts also join the monkhood

in an effort to "dry out". One temple in northern Thailand even specialises in treating heroin addicts.

Police Colonel Vorataph Mathwaj, Head of the Investigation Division of the Thai Immigration Police said: "We are pleased to have caught Jo's killer so quickly, but I cannot say I am happy with the result. We had hoped to find the girl alive. This does not look good for Thailand and our monkhood."

Stephen Geers of Trailfinders, the London-based travel agency, said: "We will still recommend Thailand to people. After all, will the French be telling people not to come to Britain because of what happened to Celine Figard?"

## Champion is missing, presumed dognapped

By MICHAEL KALLENBACH AND RUSSELL JENKINS

A CHAMPION pedigree dog worth £30,000 has vanished shortly before it was due to compete for a top prize at Crufts.

Isaac, a prize-winning rare German wire-haired pointer, disappeared along with Spice, a less valuable 14-month-old bitch, at the end of their regular daily walk.

They are feared to have been taken by thieves who knew the dogs were rare, or by jealous rivals who wanted to knock out a tough competitor at the start of a new showing season.

Their disappearance nearly two weeks ago has mystified police, shocked other breeders around the country and left the owner distraught.

Maxine O'Connor, of Mossbank, St Helen's, on Merseyside, has offered a £500 reward to be reunited with the two dogs she last saw chasing along a dirt track on desolate farm land on Tuesday, January 2, as she walked back to her parked car.

Mrs O'Connor, 36, a professional breeder, had briefly turned away to put two other



Maxine yesterday with two of Isaac's puppies

pointers in her car at Carr Mill dam, Mossbank. She whistled but Isaac and Spice did not answer the call.

At the same time she saw a blue transit van disappearing at speed up the track, and is now convinced that the dogs had been bundled into the back. Isaac, now 20 months old, gained his champion title

last November at the Gundog Breeds of Scotland show. Puppies sired by Isaac would be highly sought after in the small, enclosed world of pointer dog breeding.

German wire-haired pointers are unusual breeds in this country with only 60 in the show ring.

The German pointer is highly valued as a gun dog. Isaac — kennel name Fennel's Footsteps Isaac at Kinnmax — has a special distinction. When he arrived from Holland at a price of £5,000, he was the first dog to enter Britain last year under the new Ministry of Agriculture regulations allowing freer movement for dogs used for breeding within the EU. They are exempt from the six-month quarantine.

Mrs O'Connor said: "I did not expect my dogs to be whisked from under my nose. It would have been understandable if the thieves had broken into my car or house, but this is terrible."

She has seven others of the same breed, and takes them to the same spot every day at the same time. "One minute the dogs were there, and the next they were gone. I saw a blue van drive off. I whistled to the dogs, but there were no sign of them. These dogs do not just disappear like this."

Mrs O'Connor and her husband, Phil, combed the area and discovered fresh paw marks at the end of a lane next to large tyre marks. "It was frosty weather and then it began to thaw, so I was able to recognise the dog paws — one female, one male," she said.

"I am one hundred per cent convinced that they were in that van. They could not just disappear into thin air. Why they were in that van, God only knows. Shergar disappeared forever, didn't he?"

Detective Inspector Jon Dawson of St Helen's police, said: "These dogs are pedigrees, but without their official pedigree papers they are not worth anything."



Isaac the champion dog and a less valuable bitch disappeared during a daily walk in the country

## Warning over Lego leaves rural vicar a shade angry

By A STAFF REPORTER

A VICAR has attacked a social services inspector's demand that he provide black dolls and Lego figures at a children's club he runs.

The Rev Michael Foster, vicar of Holy Jesus Church, Lydbrook, Gloucestershire, was amazed when the inspector insisted toys at the after-school club should "reflect the black population".

"This is dabbling with social engineering," Mr Foster said. "Our Lego characters are yellow so, if anything, they reflect the Sino-Japanese community. There was no insistence that we buy white Lego characters — only black ones. How nitpicking are we



The Lego figures

going to get?" In a letter after the six-monthly inspection, the vicar was told his toys "did reflect the white population, but did in no way reflect the black population".

The club has bought a black doll as a result, Mr Foster said. It already had many children's books reflecting a multi-cultural society. Mr

Foster, 43, said he was aware of the need to promote racial equality among children after running a London community centre before moving to rural Gloucestershire. But he felt the inspector's demand went too far.

Douglas French, Tory MP for Gloucester, said: "It is very harmful to take political correctness to such a daft length. They should use a little bit more common sense."

A spokesman for Gloucestershire County Council defended the inspector, saying: "Our equal opportunities policy is to reflect multi-cultural society. It's especially important in rural areas where children might not have much multi-cultural experience."

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Unprecedented redundancy deal for 3,000 will cut jail staff by 7 per cent as number of inmates soars

## Prison officers fear job losses will lead to riots



By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

PRISON staff said yesterday that there could be jail disturbances as a result of the loss of almost 3,000 jobs to help meet Treasury-imposed spending cuts.

Older governors and prison officers will be offered a redundancy package involving enhanced pension rights and lump sums to leave the service. The Prison Service is seeking to cut costs by 13.3 per cent over the next three years.

The redundancy deal, the first offered by the Prison Service, is one of a series of measures designed to cut £65 million from the £1.35 billion annual cost of running the 133 jails in England and Wales. It is

expected to reduce the number of employees, currently 37,900, by 2,800 by the end of 1998.

A freeze on recruitment has been imposed which will reduce staff numbers by a further 1,000; capital spending has been cut; and prisoners will spend more time locked in their cells at night.

Ann Widdecombe, the Prisons Minister, has been warned that there could be a shortage of jail accommodation between February and May this year. She has been told that to overcome the difficulties the service might have to put 1,100 inmates two to a cell.

Richard Tilt, acting director-general of the Prison Service, confirmed yesterday that there would be voluntary redundancies

The Royal College of Midwives is to urge Britain's prisons to scrap the "inhuman" practice of shackling pregnant prisoners while in hospitals. Caroline Flint, college president, will meet Richard Tilt, the director-general of the Prison Service, today in an effort to end what she calls a barbaric procedure. It emerged earlier this month that a pregnant inmate at Holloway Prison, North London, was handcuffed to prevent an escape during her 12-hour labour in the nearby Whittington Hospital.

but would not put a figure on how many.

Officials have concluded that as staff pay makes up the biggest part of the budget, only job losses over three years will enable them to meet the Treasury-imposed cutback.

Mr Tilt admitted that meeting the budget reduction would be "difficult". He added: "The first priority in all of this is to maintain proper control and good order in prisons. If we don't, we put the safety of staff and prisoners at risk."

He said cuts in education, prison farms and workshops would be a last resort. "We aim to protect the core part of the regimes."

The redundancies represent about 7 per cent of the Prison Service's total staffing levels. Prison governors and officers expressed alarm at the cuts and gave warning of a return to inmates being locked up for long periods. David Evans, of the Prison Officers' Association, said: "This is a high-risk strategy likely to lead to prison disturbances and disruption."

Penal reform groups also said that a rising prison population combined with budget cuts could lead to a loss of control and jail riots.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said the cuts in jobs would be devastating.

"Prisoners will spend longer in their cells with less to do and the most experienced staff will leave. Tension levels will rise within prisons with the risk of serious incidents breaking out."

Prison governors will today be sent their budget allocation for 1996. It will be left to them how they implement the cutbacks. Prison Service sources said they hoped there would be no compulsory redundancies. Officers and those in governor grades aged over 55 with at least 20 years' experience will be the first group to be offered voluntary redundancy, followed by those over 50.

The drive to cut staffing levels through voluntary redundancy comes as the service is predicting the prison population will reach an all-time high of 53,700 by March.

## Countdown of neighbour who asked for a lift from Branson

By OLIVER AUGUST AND ANDREW PIERCE

RORY McCarthy was enjoying a weekend with his family yesterday as he prepared for three weeks with the neighbour he asked for a lift. The neighbour was Richard Branson.

McCarthy was one of more than 1,000 applicants who asked to be the third crewman on the Virgin Global Challenger, which lifts off this week to try to orbit the globe. Like Branson, he is a successful businessman, a lover of excitement and lives in Holland Park, west London.

He has already spent one night in the balloon capsule. To see exactly how crowded it might feel, he took his wife Sally and sleeping bags. They were so comfortable, they overslept and were awoken the next morning by the welders finishing off the capsule.

"Psychology will be the most trying part of the journey," he said. "Three people will be stuck in a capsule ten feet wide for 21 days."

McCarthy, 35, has had several careers. He con-

quered the City, but grew bored with all that ten years ago. He became a successful prawn farmer, then a millionaire businessman. For real excitement, he threw himself off a balloon and didn't release his parachute for two minutes. He became a professional hang-glider, and broke the world sky-diving altitude record.

But he says of Branson: "I am not as whacky as he is. I am really much more conservative."

McCarthy owns several leisure companies. His Siam Trading Corporation began in 1990 as one of the world's largest king-prawn farmers. Today his assets are worth £90 million and include numerous restaurants. "Basically what we do involves fun," he said. The historic flight couldn't have come at a worse time for McCarthy's business. He is in the middle of restructuring and renaming his company.

On board, he will be responsible for safety, being the only one who has jumped from a balloon at 35,000ft.



Rory McCarthy and his wife Sally: they spent a night together inside the balloon capsule and overslept

"My role is simple. If there is an emergency I take Richard with me, like the man who takes the bullet for the President," he said.

While Per Lindstrand is navigating and Mr Branson is monitoring the eight video cameras on board for an ITV documentary, Mr McCarthy will also be looking after their nutritional needs. Because the air is so dry at high altitude they will have to drink tea pints of water a day.

But to relieve stress they will also get a bottle of Virgin Vodka each.

Sally, 39, and their children Bo, 2, Cameron, 6, and Alexandra, 10, will be there when he comes down again. He said: "Doing this sort of thing was much easier when I didn't have a family. That's what makes this project different. But I am coming back from this. I want to have a good time."

The nutritionist Nigel

Gifford, who advised Chris Bonington on his ascent of K2, flew into Marrakesh last night to oversee the dietary arrangements for the Virgin Challenger crew, who will be using a microwave.

A team of 150 electricians, engineers, seamstresses and technicians are working in eight-hour shifts, round the clock, for Thursday's launch. The work is being carried out in two adjacent hangars at the military base at Marra-

kesh Airport in Morocco. Armed soldiers maintain a discreet but constant presence. More than 30 tonnes of equipment was flown in by Airbus on Saturday and was finally unloaded yesterday lunchtime. All the equipment had to arrive before the onset of Ramadan at the weekend. Any materials which came in after the start of the four-week holy period were unlikely to move much beyond the ports.

## Mother tells of family's grief after latest Ecstasy death

By LEYLA LINTON

THE mother of a teenager with a heart condition who died after taking Ecstasy at a nightclub said last night that she had lost her reason for living. Andreas Bouzis, 19, died after he and two friends took Ecstasy tablets shortly before going into the UK Club in Wandsworth, southwest London.

Josephine Bouzis said of her only son: "Andreas was our life, our family, our love, our reason to live. On Friday he went to a club, just as your child may have done. Now he is dead, gone forever."

Mrs Bouzis, who was accompanied by her husband, Tasos, and two of her son's friends, told a news conference: "Everything I have had over the past 19 years has been taken away. Yesterday my son had a future, just as your child. Now he is dead."

Mrs Bouzis, who is Spanish-born, added: "Families and their love are very precious. Ecstasy destroys families."

Peter Georgiou, 19, who took an Ecstasy tablet with Andreas but suffered no ill effects, warned other young clubbers to resist the pressures to take drugs. He said: "Due to an Ecstasy tablet costing just £10 our best friend has lost his life. Anyone who goes clubbing will understand the pressure of taking them, but it is just not worth it."

Andreas began sweating profusely just under two hours after taking the tablet early on Saturday and told his friends he was going to the front door for some air. He collapsed and died at the club. The tablets were in the shape of a rabbit.

Neighbours in Finchley described Andreas as a sensible and well-brought-up teenager. One said: "I've known him since he was a boy. He was very courteous and loved football. I couldn't stop crying when I heard, it's awful. He was the last person you would expect to be taking drugs."

Police have raided the club in the past and on Saturday night, after they were called to Andreas's death, they arrested one person for possession of drugs with intent to supply. Police issued a photo of the person they believed had supplied the drug to Andreas. He was in his mid-20s, 5ft 10in tall, with centre-parted dark hair and brown eyes.

Mr Couzens said police had not applied to close the premises but put forward "certain objections" to local magistrates.



Andreas Bouzis died after single tablet

Detective Chief Inspector Roger Couzens told the press conference: "This tragic death highlights the dangers that young people put themselves in when they take drugs. I ask all young people out there in the future, when they are offered drugs, to take that into consideration."

Mr Couzens confirmed that Andreas had a weak heart and that he had no evidence that the teenager had taken drugs in the past. He said that although the exact cause of death would not be known until later this week, all the indications were that the Ecstasy tablet had had an effect on Andreas's heart. It is not believed that Andreas died from drinking too much water.

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Mr Couzens said police had not applied to close the premises but put forward "certain objections" to local magistrates.



Tasos and Josephine Bouzis at yesterday's press conference. "Andreas was our life," his mother said

## Hormone may stop brain damage caused by stress

By LEYLA LINTON

A NATURAL hormone could help prevent the brain damage or malfunction believed to be caused by stress, according to a Cambridge scientist.

Dehydroepiandrosterone, or DHEA, which has been dubbed a youth elixir in the United States, appears to combat the harmful effects of cortisol, a hormone triggered by stress, which can cause brain damage, according to Dr Joe Herbert of the Department of Anatomy and the Centre for Brain Repair at Cambridge University.

"There is lots of experimental evidence to show that cortisol can cause brain damage. There is a very real concern now that in some kinds of people this is entirely possible, but DHEA might prevent you from getting this brain damage," he said.

Experiments on animals have shown that injections of cortisol cause loss of brain cells in the part of the brain which is mainly concerned with memory and learning. Similar damage has been seen



Herbert: made study of depression in children

in animals subject to stress. Some stroke patients also show elevated levels of cortisol, as do older people.

DHEA is the most abundant steroid hormone in the body. It appears at about the age of seven and is found in large amounts in children. It peaks in adolescence but declines to a very low level among the old. DHEA is also decreased by stress and ill-

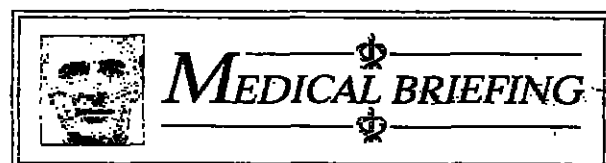
ness, according to Dr Herbert. A three-year research project by Dr Herbert and Ian Goodyer, Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Cambridge, concludes that high levels of cortisol and low levels of DHEA are associated with major depression, which Dr Herbert believes is a form of brain malfunction.

The results of the study of hormonal changes in more than 90 depressed children are published this month in *Psychological Medicine*. Dr Herbert said that the role of cortisol in depression had been known, but the role of DHEA had not.

"The problem has always been that hormonal changes in depression have only been detected in half the patients. We think that is because we have only been looking at one hormone," Dr Herbert and Professor Goodyer are now studying 140 normal children at risk of getting depression and measuring changes in hormone levels to see if they can tell who will develop it.

Letters, page 17

## Underweight smoker has slim chance of survival



Dr Thomas Stuttford

THE highly conscientious, grossly overweight, heavy-smoking 50-year-old man seemed to face all the hazards of a hard-working, hard-living life. The only question was whether his collapse would follow a stroke, a coronary thrombosis or lung cancer.

The answer to the question came during the cold pre-Christmas weather, when he developed a sudden crushing chest pain as he went out into the night and was exposed to a blast of North Sea wind. The pain passed within half an hour but a few days later he had a serious heart attack.

It is generally accepted that excess weight increases the chance of a stroke, a heart attack, diabetes and several forms of cancer, including cancer of the breast, prostate and large bowel. But hitherto its influence on the incidence of cancer of the lung has not been studied.

Most doctors have patients who refuse to stop smoking because they believe that their otherwise healthy lifestyle, which keeps them lean,

muscular and athletically fit, will protect them from cancer of the lung. They are wrong. Not being obese will halve their chance of a stroke, and reduce the likelihood of a coronary thrombosis, but the effect of weight on the chances of developing cancer of the lung is surprising.

A recent study published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* shows that remaining thin does not provide any protection against lung cancer. No cigarette smoker is immune from the grossly inflated danger of cancer of the lung — over 90 per cent of these cancers occur in cigarette smokers — but the very thin smoker is almost four times more likely to develop the disease than the fat

smoker. The thinner a person is the more likely he or she is to succumb.

It is suggested that thin people may have lower body levels of the antioxidant vitamins E, C and beta-carotene, which are fat soluble. The antioxidant vitamins are thought to be cancer protective as well as beneficial to the arteries.

This latest research does not give smokers an excuse to remain overweight, given the other risks attached. The research does, however, add to the growing evidence of the importance of the antioxidant vitamins, whether taken in pill form or with the diet as fresh green vegetables, citrus fruits, tomatoes, carrots, peppers or red wine.

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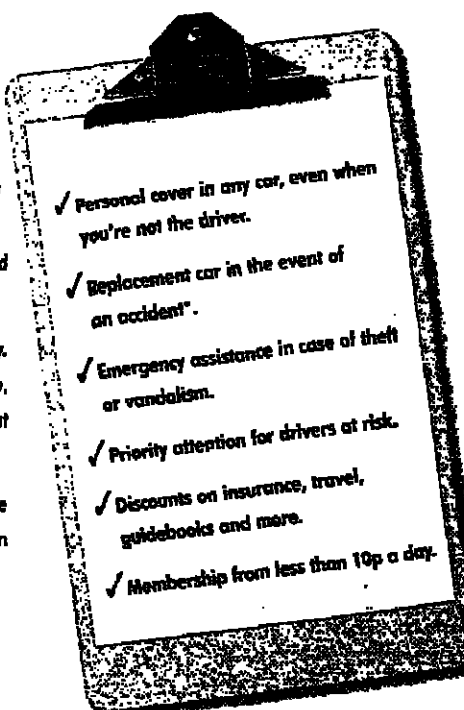
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## Britain runs out of space for dead

By IAN MURRAY

BRITAIN is facing a crisis in finding ways to dispose sensitively of the 650,000 bodies of those who die each year.

Overcrowding in cemeteries is becoming so acute that the Government is being asked to change the law to allow graves to be reused. At the same time the cost of upgrading crematoriums to meet the Environmental Protection Act is proving too high for hard-up local authorities.

Pressure on cemetery space is particularly acute in urban areas. Two London boroughs — Hackney and Tower Hamlets — already have no burial space. A further six boroughs will have no space by the end of the century and face the unpopular choice of turning parkland into cemeteries.

A survey of 700 cemeteries in the 200 largest local authorities has found that on average they are three quarters full, while 70 have no space left at all. Ian Hussein, secretary of the Institute of Burial and Cremation Administration, said it was not politically popular to spend money on cemeteries instead of on something like a new park. "A long-term solution has got to be found or the day will come when we have nowhere to bury the dead," he said.

About 70 per cent of all bodies are cremated, but Dr Julie Rugg of the University of York's Cemetery Research Group believes that more families would choose burial if it were possible to find a plot. "Because of pressure on space, authorities with plots to spare can charge anything up to £1,000 and many people cannot afford that," she said.

The price of cremation, too, is rising steeply because of the high cost of converting furnaces to meet new environmental standards. Many councils may now privatise their crematoriums. The Government has just changed the rules to allow them to keep 90 per cent of the proceeds of any sales made up to June 1997.



Volunteers carry out a search of common land at Yate, near Bristol. Louise's father, Robert Smith, below, was overwhelmed by the response from members of the public



## Ten thousand volunteers fail to find missing girl

By RICHARD DUCE

THEY came in droves and from all walks of life. Ten thousand volunteers turned up yesterday for Britain's biggest mass search in the hope of finding clues to the disappearance of the missing teenager Louise Smith.

Police had expected only 2,000 people would offer to help Robert Smith trace his daughter, who was last seen on Christmas Day after leaving a nightclub. But it seemed as if the entire population of Yate, near Bristol, was on the move. Mr Smith, 49, of Chipping Sodbury, said: "I am overwhelmed. I never expect-

ed this many." A series of police searches using helicopters, tracker dogs and divers have so far failed to find any trace of Louise. The volunteers joined Louise's relatives, friends, 150 police officers and tracker dogs to carry out "line searches" of fields and common land for anything that could help to determine what happened to Louise. She is a clerical assistant.

Chief Inspector Piet Bleshevel, of Avon and Somerset police, said: "The response has been tremendous." Among the searchers was the Northavon MP Sir John Cope, who said: "This case has touched the public's

imagination because we can all relate to the family."

Louise's friend, Lisa Parry, who also joined the search, said: "We cannot give up hope of finding her alive."

Another searcher was Paul Hancock, a bank clerk who drove 40 miles from his home in Swindon. "I came to help because I felt so sorry for Louise's family," he said. "It is hard to imagine the pain they must be going through."

Detective Superintendent John Newman, who is heading the hunt, said six hours of searching had turned up small items of clothing but there was nothing to link them to Louise.



Louise disappeared

## Fourth Spanish crop failure drives up price of olive oil

By ROBIN YOUNG

SUPERMARKETS and delicatessens are preparing for extra pressures in meeting the fashionable demand for olive oil after Spain's fourth successive crop failure.

The price of a half-litre bottle of extra virgin oil, currently about £3, could soon rise to £5. Yet even that cannot be expected to panic the serious devotees who already pay up to £26 a litre for estate-bottled and

vintage oils. Sainsbury's lists some 15 premium olive oils from estates in Italy and France in its Special Selection range, at up to £11.99 for a half-litre. Oils flavoured with lemon or orange are £7.50 for 250ml.

Many wine merchants now feature specially chosen olive oils in their lists, and one, Enotria Winecellars, organises a tasting of new vintage oils with as much enthusiasm as if they were vintage wines. This year, Enotria's "fruity" oil from the Isola e

Olena estate in Chianti will be £13.49 a half-litre, compared with £8.79 last year. "We have had to cut our margins to keep some of the prices at all reasonable," said Enotria's Jonathan Henfrey.

Charles Carey, who runs The Oil Merchant, importing single-estate Italian oils, said: "I sell twelve times as much as at the end of the 1980s. Now I am advising people to buy ahead of their needs."

Shop prices for branded and

supermarket oils rose by nearly 40 per cent during 1995, but further increases are inevitable because in the same time prices in the international wholesale markets have doubled, and are still rising. The current Spanish crop, still being crushed, is expected to yield some 250,000 tonnes, compared to the million tonnes that might be achieved in a good year. Italy, which produces 400,000 tonnes but sells 700,000, relies on imports from Spain to make

up its shortfall. This year, of the major producers only Greece has any surplus and buyers have scoured Tunisia and Turkey and as far afield as Syria and Jordan.

More than a fifth of British households are now regular users of olive oil, spending about £37.5 million and consuming 15,000 tonnes, in a national enthusiasm for Mediterranean cuisine and healthy eating.

Leading article, page 17

## Cathedral sees car as mixed blessing

By LEYLA LINTON

A SERVICE at Coventry Cathedral to celebrate the centenary of the invention of the car will also ask the forgiveness of God for its harmful effects.

The service, instigated by Coventry City Council and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, has angered environmentalists, who believe it will glorify the car.

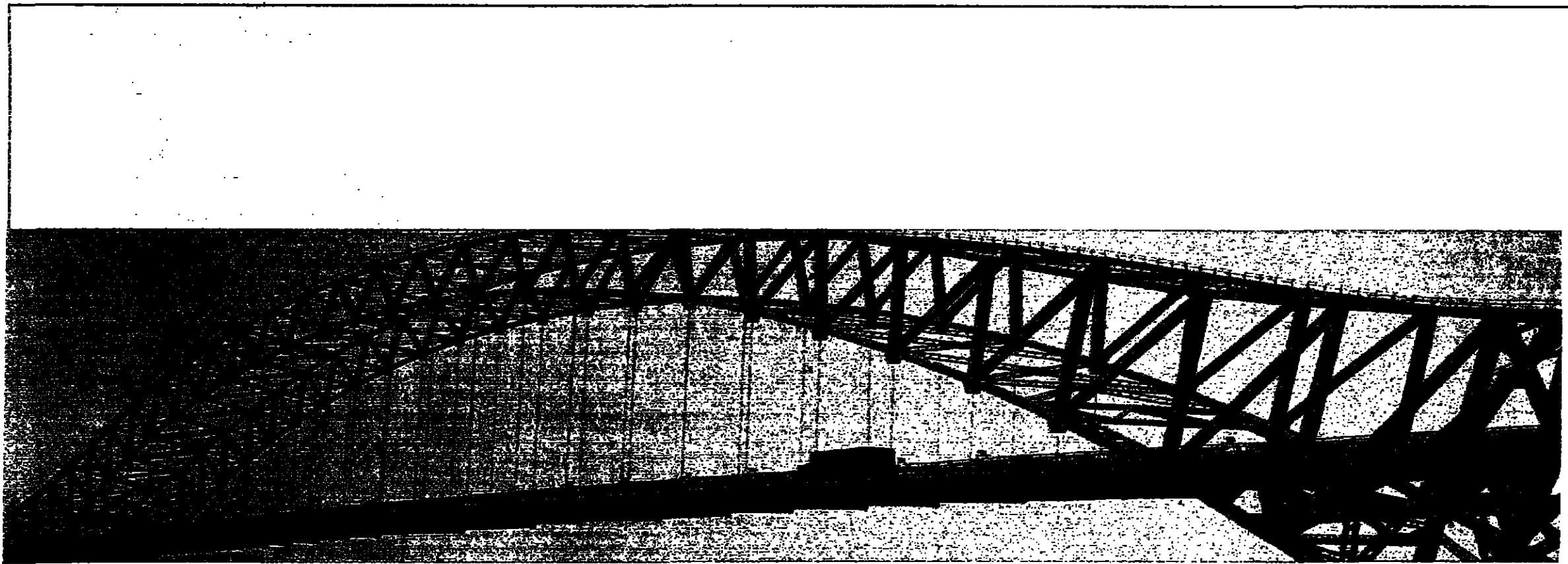
The Rev Lawrence Mortimer, spokesman for the cathedral, said the service would make clear that the car had been a mixed blessing. A Bidding Prayer will thank God for the benefits that the motor vehicle had brought. But it adds: "We must also acknowledge its harmful effects: among them environmental pollution from exhaust fumes, the relentless encroachment of new roads into our countryside, and the appalling toll of death and injury due to accidents. For this we ask forgiveness of God."

Mr Mortimer said: "Every Christian worship has an act of penitence built into it and this is no exception. The cathedral is in the middle of a motor city and it knows what it is about. A cathedral is nothing if it does not engage with the real world." The cathedral has a sculpture of the head of Christ on show made from the wreck of a car involved in a fatal accident.

At the service on Wednesday two cars, one vintage, one electric, will be driven down the cathedral aisle.

Friends of the Earth and members of charity Roadpeace, which campaigns on behalf of victims of car accidents, are planning to protest outside the cathedral and at an evening banquet celebrating the centenary.

Gerald Kells, of the West Midlands Friends of the Earth, said: "The cathedral is being turned into a car showroom. I think it is naive of the Provost and the Bishop to think that the motor trade is not doing this for PR purposes."



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# Inventors take a shot at ending golf hacker's misery

By JOHN YOUNG

TWO further attempts to alleviate the misery of the golfer whose ball refuses to fly straight and true are about to appear in club professionals' shops.

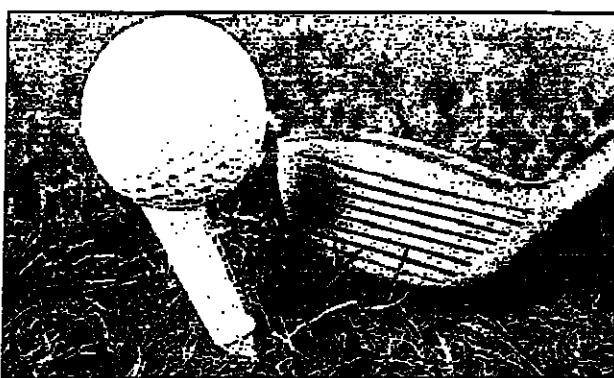
The two new designs of golf tee are so different that logic suggests that both inventions cannot be right. Precedent also suggests that, like almost every other device intended to make the game easier, the high-tech tees will fall foul of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, the guardian of the rules. It has the power of veto and takes a properly Calvinistic view that suffering is good for the soul.

In one new design the back of the plastic tee cup that holds the ball is cut away. In the other the tee is reinforced by a raised bracket against

which the ball sits, preventing the club from making direct contact with the missile.

The latter, known as the Arnold Palmer Anti-Slice Tee, is based on the premise that wayward hooks and slices are the result of the club head striking the ball at the wrong angle. But if the club strikes only the bracket on the top of the tee and not the ball, the latter will soar away in a straight line, however clumsy the impact. In theory, at least.

Voco UK, of Ormskirk, Lancashire, plans to market the tee within a couple of months. But Tim Daniels, of Second Chance, which held the Arnold Palmer concession until last year, is less optimistic. He said the tees broke easily, and there were many complaints from customers



Soaring hopes: two versions of Paul Davidson's tee, which leaves the back of the ball exposed, left. Its swivelling steel contraption, right, has already been banned. Mr Davidson believes that the club should strike only the ball, never the tee

trying them out. They had not been a great success in the United States.

Another inventor, Paul Davidson, on the other hand, believes that the club should strike only the ball, not touching the tee at all. Two years

ago his Master Tee, a swivelling steel contraption costing around £30, was banned by the Royal and Ancient. He has now come up with a device, costing a fraction of a penny to produce, in which the rim of the cup runs only

two thirds of the way round the front of the ball, leaving the back exposed so that only the ball and not the tee is hit by the club. He has produced two versions, one to be inserted at a 45-degree. Lots of people have testified that it

works," he said yesterday. "If you hit a round object with a flat surface, it can only go one way," he added — which must be news to most golfers. The R and A said yesterday that, as none of the designs had been submitted for in-

spection, it could not comment. Equipment makers were not required to submit products for approval, but it added ominously that the rules committee would investigate any complaints of unfair practice.

The history of the Grand Old Game is littered with often disputatious attempts to introduce devices designed to ease the pain and suffering. In May 1967 a joint committee of the Royal and Ancient and the United States Golf Association agreed a ban on putters shaped like croquet mallets, though it was far from clear that these would help anyone's game.

In August 1977 the great American golfer Tom Watson found his clubs outlawed on the eve of the PGA championship at Pebble Beach, California, because the grooves in

the club faces were too wide and too many. That foreshadowed a long dispute between the association and the makers of Ping clubs over the use of square grooves, which were said to impart an inordinate amount of backspin. An Arizona court eventually found in Ping's favour.

Many years before, Americans had been introduced to the Faultless, a "solid" ball which was claimed to be immune to cuts and scuffs but which apparently did not find general favour. More bizarre was the claim by one Arthur Pendrick in 1976 to have invented a "hovering" golf ball, using a special high-voltage generator to produce an electrostatic field surrounding the tee. In 1988 the Royal and Ancient banned Japanese balls deemed to travel too fast.

Nation on the edge of its seat as Granada v Forte goes to the last round

## Armchair armies dig in for battle of the City giants

By ALASDAIR MURRAY AND JOE JOSEPH

GRANADA's bid for the Forte hotel empire has joined the select few financial battles which not only dominate City wine bar chatter, but also interest people with no shares in either combatant.

With just over a week before investors make crunch decisions on Granada's offer, both sides have attracted die-hard supporters who champion their camp and study every news dispatch from the front. The opinions of these spectators has grown as polarised as those of the two companies.

And it is not just about money, even though most of the nation has some indirect stake through the investments of their pension funds and life insurance companies, or their television and leisure interests, or even their choice of service station.

Forte's armchair army is charmed by Rocco Forte's suave manner. His supporters are convinced that Gerry Robinson, boss of the Granada television and catering group, still deserves the insult so memorably slung on his appointment, when John Cleese called him an "ignorant upstart caterer" — even though the two have long since made their peace.

Robinson's fans admire his

business record and was an admonishing finger at the "fusty" management of the Forte group, led by a chief executive who was out shooting on the morning the bid broke. Among City and industry figures, the consensus is that the bid has swung Granada's way, although even ardent Robinson supporters are prepared to compliment Forte on its defence.

Author and television presenter Melvyn Bragg has few doubts: "Forte have made a spirited defence but they have not answered the questions being asked."

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Bragg, outgoing chairman of Border Television, has dealt with Robinson as both a business friend and enemy. Bragg was on the board of

London Weekend Television when Granada launched its successful £735 million bid there. He is now a Robinson employee, as head of arts at LWT, and says: "The company has an extremely efficient management team. In my experience it has proved to be a most benevolent employer."

An experienced City figure remarked: "It has boiled down to an argument between cash and Rocco Forte. I would rather have the cash."

Also waving their flags for the Granada camp are David Michels, chief executive of the hotel group Stakis; Francis Mackay, chief executive at caterers Compass, where Robinson first made his name; and Rudolph Agnew, chairman of Lasmo, which fought off a £1.6 billion bid from Enterprise Oil in 1994.

Many City fund managers, who have a pivotal role, seem to have lined up behind Granada. Scott Meech, a UK fund manager at Threadneedle Asset Management, which holds a small stake in Forte, said that recent share purchases by major institutional shareholders had been made in both companies, a tactic that is believed to favour Granada as it supports the company's share price and

preserves the value of the bid. In particular, Mercury Asset Management, which holds around 15 per cent in Forte and Granada, has been sporting this tactic. The MAM team — headed by vice-chairwoman Carol Galley, reputedly the highest-paid professional woman in Britain — played a key role in ensuring Robinson won the 1994 battle for LWT. Ms Galley's tactics infuriated Greg Dyke, then of LWT and now chairman and chief executive of Pearson Television, who accused her of a lack of trust and short-termism, but they have secured her reputa-



The contenders: Rocco Forte, left, is either a suave sophisticate or head of a "fusty" management. Gerry Robinson is highly efficient — or an "upstart caterer"

One supportive fund manager criticised Forte shareholders for using the takeover as a route to better management: "If they want better management they could have acted against the board years ago."

Other prominent supporters include Sir John Egan, chief executive of the airports group BAA, and Brian Winterlood, managing director of City market-makers Winterlood. Everyone agrees the battle will go right to the wire.

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Letters, page 17  
City, page 40

## Grand Prix stars face driving test

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

FORMULA ONE racing drivers, among the world's highest paid sportsmen, are to be forced to sit a written test on safety before they are allowed to compete in Grands Prix from next year.

Max Mosley, the president of International Motor Sport Federation, said: "There have been one or two cases of drivers doing things they ought not to do because they didn't know the rules. On two occasions at least, drivers have been before the world council on motor racing, because they broke the rules. One admitted he did not know what they were."

Formula One drivers with the experience of the world champion Michael Schumacher and his arch-rival Damon Hill will have to turn up in Paris once a year to sit the multiple-choice test under strict exam conditions.

The questions cover rules on warning flags, the use of safety cars, aborted races, behaviour in the pit lane and what to do if the car spins and ends up facing the wrong way. The test will not cover controversial

areas such as overtaking manoeuvres. "We will only test on things where there is a specific rule, such as whether a black flag with an orange disc means 'Your car is on fire' or 'Come in now for a cup of tea'," Mr Mosley said.

Any of the 22 Formula One drivers who fail on a single question will be asked to resist the test before being allowed to compete. The tests will be introduced towards the end of the year and have to be passed before the 1997 season.

Sales of the most expensive cars have risen to their highest level for five years, according to undisclosed motor industry figures. Spending on cars such as Mercedes, Jaguars and Rolls-Royces jumped by £800 million last year.

While the average buyer, worried about the economy, kept away from showrooms, emboldened by higher profits and lower interest rates, were replacing limousines and company cars. Total new car registrations last year grew by 1.9 per cent; those in the executive sector by 16 per cent.

## Legion wants US to study Gulf War Syndrome here

By JOHN YOUNG

THE Royal British Legion yesterday urged the Government to invite the American group investigating so-called Gulf War Syndrome to come to this country to take evidence from British veterans.

"There is cause for concern, and we would like more answers," Bobby Hanscomb, the Legion's assistant secretary, said. "There are plenty of reasons to look further."

A survey involving only British troops would be expensive and probably statistically too small to be conclusive, he said. It would be far better to include them in the much larger US exercise, involving some 30,000 men and women.

The ex-servicemen's charity has been approached by more than 400 survivors of the 1991 campaign to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation, about half of whom have since been granted disability pensions.

Although the public tend to think of the Legion as a social club which turns out for Remembrance services, the organisation was set up in 1921 in order to plead the case of



Dalton: concerned over younger servicemen

shell-shocked victims of the First World War. Colonel Terry English, the Legion's welfare controller, said it was always ready to take up a cause if there had been an injustice or the Government was ignoring complaints.

The American survey embraced two groups of about 15,000 people each, he said. The Legion would like to include about 100 British servicemen in each group. Symptoms ranged from se-

rious diseases like motor-neurone disease and leukaemia to minor skin complaints, but the underlying factor was that all the sufferers felt that immunisation against various diseases and chemical warfare agents was responsible. It was perhaps significant that the French, who had not been subjected to similar precautions, had reported no cases of Gulf War Syndrome, Colonel English said.

Yesterday The Sunday Times reported that there had been a high proportion of birth defects among children of veterans. Michael Colvin, chairman of the Commons Defence Select Committee, will this week call for a full epidemiological study.

At the launch yesterday of the Legion's 75th anniversary celebrations, Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton, its president, emphasised its concern for younger servicemen. Since 1945 they had been involved in more than 70 conflicts; only one third of the Legion's membership now consisted of Second World War veterans.

Bush recalls, page 11  
Photograph, page 20

## Rock stars drum up the young vote

By ALEXANDRA FREAN

BRITAIN's leading rock stars are to launch a series of concerts, music videos and advertisements to encourage 18 to 24-year-olds to vote at the next general election. The non-partisan campaign, called Rock the Vote, is expected to be supported by Damon Albarn, lead singer of the group Blur, and by the bands Oasis, M-People and Simply Red.

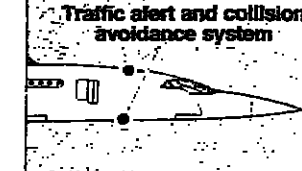
John Preston, chairman of the record company BMG and a member of the Rock the Vote board, said that it was designed to help first-time voters feel that they were part of the political system. According to MORI, around half of all 18 to 24-year-olds did not vote in 1992 and 15 per cent have already made up their minds not to vote next time.

"For first-time voters, single issue politics are often more important than parliamentary politics. There is a danger that we could lose a generation of people from the political scene," he said. The campaign will be officially launched at the Ministry of Sound night club in south London on February 18.

## Radar breakthrough beats Concorde ban

A threat to ban Concorde from America has been lifted after British engineers found a way of preventing new radar domes from disintegrating at supersonic speeds (Harvey Elliott writes).

American safety experts had threatened a ban because the compulsory Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) did not work on Concorde. The stresses and strains on the supersonic aircraft were found to be cracking the domes covering the equipment. The domes, a few inches high, were the first external alteration to Concorde's sleek lines since it began commercial services to the US almost 20 years ago. Chelton Electrostatics of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, has developed a new material and a thermoplastic bonding technique to satisfy the Federal Aviation Authority.



## Prince 'hurt in hunt fall'

The Prince of Wales was reported to have been injured after falling from a horse while hunting near York. Witnesses were said to have seen his face swollen and grazed as he got to his feet. Buckingham Palace said that when the Prince returned to the house of friends where he was staying for the weekend "he hadn't got a mark on him".

## Fund targets UK poverty

The Tear Fund is to become the second overseas aid charity to target poverty in Britain, it was announced yesterday. Its initiative, UK Action, will support church-run projects in an attempt to alter attitudes to deprivation. It will work with the Evangelical Alliance, formerly part of the fund, and hopes to raise £10 million in the next six years.

## Offa's Dyke for sale

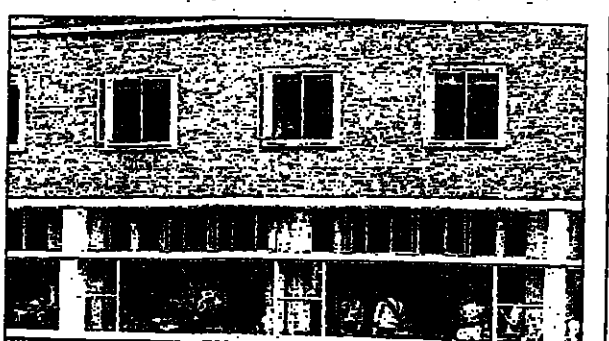
British Coal is selling part of Offa's Dyke, right, in a major disposal of land and properties in northeast Wales. The 100-metre area of the historic earthworks, at Rhosyllen, near Wrexham, Clwyd, is among more than 1,000 acres of assets being sold by the former state-owned corporation. The 177-mile path was built between 757 and 796 by Offa, King of Mercia, to mark the frontier set by his wars with the Welsh.



## South drinks more wine

Twenty per cent of households in London serve wine at home more than three times a week, according to a survey for Victoria Wine. However, in the East Midlands that figure drops to 6 per cent, while 35 per cent in Yorkshire, Humberside, the West Midlands and Wales never serve wine in their home, compared with 27 per cent nationally.

## Goldfinger home to let



The National Trust is seeking a tenant for the modernist home of Erno Goldfinger, the Hungarian architect. The three-bedroom maisonette, above, in Willow Road, Hampstead, northwest London, is noted for its 1930s fittings and works of art by Henry Moore, Max Ernst and Roland Penrose. It is due to open to the public in April after being refurbished by the trust, which launched an appeal to buy the art when it acquired it in 1994. Rent, which includes use of the one-acre garden, is £325 a week.

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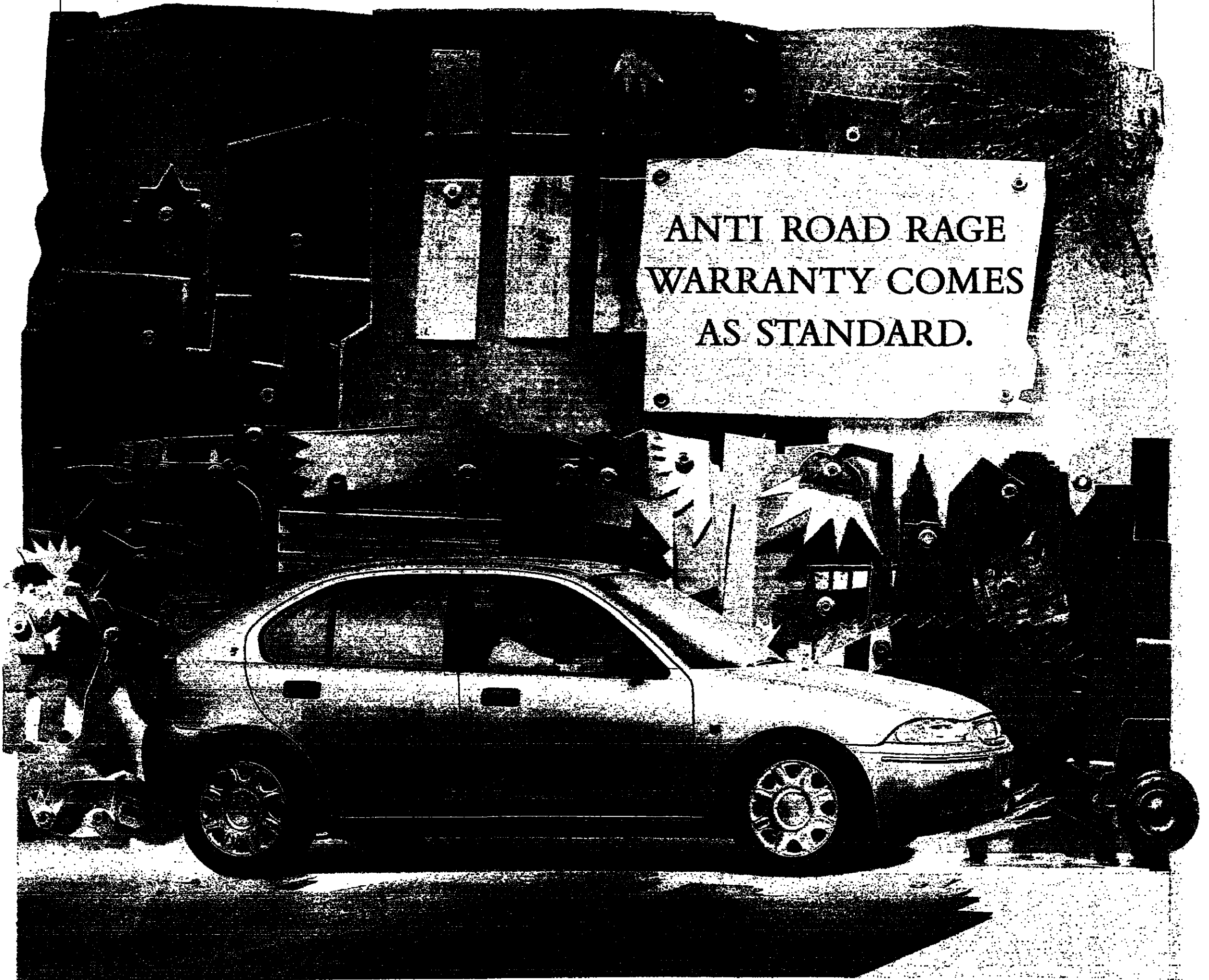


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# Experts back Natal protesters in fight to save game park

**FROM INIGO GILMORE IN ST LUCIA, SOUTH AFRICA**

TO the delight of hundreds of thousands of South Africans who fought plans to stripmine the ancient sand dunes of St Lucia, on Natal's north coast, a government-backed research project has firmly supported development of the area for eco-tourism.

R.F. "Pik" Botha, Minister of Energy and Mineral Affairs, will meet colleagues today to agree on a position they will take to the full Cabinet based on the findings of the report.

The Greater St Lucia Wetlands Park has five distinct natural areas providing a breathtaking mosaic of sandy beaches and coral reefs, backing on to the largest estuarine lake in Africa. The eastern shores are lined with lush forests and dunes that plunge down to grassy plains and reed swamps, while dry savanna and thornveld can be found to the west. Covering more than 600,000 acres, the

reserve has a greater diversity of plant life than the famous Kruger National Park.

Home to more than 2,000 vertebrate species — including 140 officially designated "endangered" animals — it contains large numbers of hippopotamus, crocodile and reedbed and migratory birds, including flamingos and pelicans.

Backed by the golfer Gary Player and Laurens van der Post, the Campaign for St Lucia wants the park declared a world heritage site. While the park has been the focus of several land-use controversies for decades, the latest debate stems from 1989 when Richards Bay Minerals applied for a lease to extract titanium — a whitener used in paints and paper — from along the eastern shores area.

An independent environmental impact assessment gave the mining project the go-ahead under strict constraints:

but a government-appointed review panel, launched after the ensuing public outcry, put the skids under the mining project. Last year Derek Hanekom, Land Affairs Minister, sought to resolve the issue by sponsoring a report by the independent Land and Agriculture Policy Centre.

The new report challenges assumptions that losses to the tourism industry because of mining were minor compared to the economic contribution of mining and that, once mining was completed, the rehabilitated dunes could equally be used for eco-tourism. It argues they were based on the judgments of consultants with no experience in the tourism industry and overlooked the problem of dune slumping caused by mining.

"Their report is a boon and a danger," Barry Clements, manager of public and community affairs at Richards Bay Minerals, said in reply.



**St Lucia, home of hippos and crocodiles as well as migratory flamingos, has been endorsed as a tourist area by government researchers**

**"It was important that the mining industry cleaned up its act, but this can block economic development in a poor region. It will send negative signals to the international business community," How-**

ever, the presence of a mine could preclude the successful overseas marketing of the park as a prime international tourist destination, the report says. The eastern shores targeted for mining are a gate-

way to the heart of the park, and if mining went ahead the world heritage application would be in jeopardy. With bumper numbers of tourists pouring into South Africa — there are projections of more

than two million by the year 2000 — the researchers concluded that the loss of revenue could rival or exceed that brought in by mining. Geert Creemers, one of the project's researchers, said: "This region

could bring in huge amounts of money to the community and at the same time the environment would be protected through eco-tourism. It is a win-win situation for the new South Africa."

## Leakey is harassed by mob in Mombasa

**FROM SCOTT STRAUS  
IN MOMBASA**

**THE** car of Richard Leakey, the opposition politician, was stoned when he arrived in Mombasa yesterday to try to open a centre of his Safina party. .

Dr. Leakey and his delegation were heckled and trailed by mobs of youths supporting President Moi's Kenyan African National Union (Kanu). Supporters said a local Safina official, arrested on Friday, had been tortured in prison.

The party officials had come to Mombasa to launch a "support centre", which could become a party branch if the Government allows Safina to be registered. The centre would have been Safina's first.

However, on Friday police arrested Khelef Khalifa, Safina's key organiser in Mombasa. Two Safina members who visited him in prison said he had been tortured.

President Moi and his senior officials have denounced Dr Leakey, a third-generation white Kenyan, and his party since its formation last May. The party applied for official registration more than six months ago; unregistered, it is barred from holding meetings or opening branches.

Muturi Kigano, Safina's chairman, said the Mombasa centre was not opened because Mr Khalifa had made all the preparations and no one else knew where the office was.

Mombasa is key opposition territory. A Safina official described the state campaign as "terror". Dr Leakey, who returned to Nairobi, was heckled all the way to the airport.

## Burmese 'pressed to extradite drug king'

**FROM JONATHAN MILLER  
IN BANGKOK**

**A WEEK** after the surrender of the world's most wanted drugs baron, Khun Sa, there is still no indication that the Burmese authorities intend either to prosecute or extradite him — despite persistent urging by the United States.

The silence has fuelled suspicions that the opium warlord has made a deal with the corrupt Rangoon junta to secure his own freedom.

The Americans hold Khun Sa responsible for flooding the streets of US cities with more than 100 tonnes of top-grade heroin every year. In 1989 he was indicted in New York on drugs trafficking charges after an investigation by the US Drug Enforcement Administration. Now officials fear he may never be brought to book — despite the £1.3 million price they have placed on his head.

They have been placed on his head.

Last night, US diplomats in Bangkok could not confirm a Thai newspaper report that Washington would be formally requesting his extradition. Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) says that the country's 50-year-old extradition treaty with America no longer stands.

Winston Lord, the US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, said in Bangkok at the weekend: "We would urge the Slorc to arrest and detain Khun Sa and to extradite him to the US." Mr Lord described him as one of the most notorious drugs traffickers in world, adding: "We are going to watch things very closely."

## 10,000 invited to Bombay wedding

**FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN BOMBAY**

**THE Hinduja family, the world's richest Indians, and the sixth richest Britons, have tied up Bombay today for a wedding. They have invited 10,000 guests, so that there is not a vacant hotel room in the nation's expensive, overcrowded financial capital.**

The reception, catering for 6,000, will be attended by the Vice-President, a dozen or more Cabinet ministers, a clutch of Chief Ministers and assorted diplomats from Delhi. The invitation comes with a 48-page book, printed in London in colour, explaining the "essence of Vedic marriage for success and happiness".

This will be the new India on show, with its top layer of mega-rich presiding over a nation where 20 per cent of the people live on less than £7 a month and at least 400 million are illiterate. More than 500 Indians who live abroad will attend and not bring gifts: the family has made it clear it wants none. With wealth estimated at £850 million, that has surprised nobody.

The British-based Hindu-jas are marrying off three brothers simultaneously — Ajay, Ramakrishan and Dheeraj. A 24-hour control room and help desk have been set up to assist guests


and the press. Food will be vegetarian and there will be no alcohol. The Hinduja's have emphasised that the focus is on simplicity and conveying a sense of community, not on wealth.

Money-divided India is nowhere more evident than in Bombay, which has the world's highest rents and Asia's largest slum, Dharavi. Half the city's residents live in shacks; young men in open-topped BMWs cruise past them on their way to expensive nightclubs. There are fears that such vast disparities could destabilise one of the most steady Third World economies.

The Government is holding to the trickle-down theory of wealth, but so far the very poor have become even poorer under economic reforms launched nearly five years ago. This is evident at the government-subsidised "fair-price" shops, which sell wheat, rice, sugar, edible oil and pulses at as little as half the commercial price.

Prices have nevertheless risen significantly in the past five years. The Government has announced new welfare measures but they will take a long time to reach their target. Some will never arrive because of creaking delivery systems and corrupt officials.

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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£19,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£20,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£22,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£23,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£24,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£25,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£26,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£27,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£28,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£29,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£31,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£32,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£41,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£43,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£46,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£47,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£48,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£49,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£50,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£51,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£67,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£68,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£69,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£70,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£71,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£72,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£73,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£74,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£75,995	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Clio 1.9i 16V 4x4	£78,995	Yes		

هكذا من الضل



## Unwelcome spotlight turned on Berlusconi as he faces corruption trial

LAMBERTO DINI, the caretaker Prime Minister brought in a year ago to save Italy from chaos, faces an uncertain future himself this week following his latest reluctant resignation.

President Scalfaro today begins soundings on whether there is all-party support for a continuation of an interim Government, either led by Signor Dini or another stopgap leader, until June, when Italy ends its EU presidency.

Since the President is against early elections, the chances are that Signor Dini will soldier on. But he will do so with diminished authority, and waiting in the wings is the man who led the centre-right

**No one is writing off the former Prime Minister as he prepares to counter charges of corporate bribery, Richard Owen reports from Rome**

coalition which collapsed at the end of 1994, Silvio Berlusconi.

Signor Berlusconi, however, goes on trial in Milan on Wednesday on corruption charges. The television and property magnate, who moved with such flourish in early 1994 from global business to high politics to regenerate the Italian economy and clean up public life, does not have to appear but has said he will.

He burst on to the scene, creating his Forza Italia party from scratch in three months and sweeping to power in March 1994. He was the main beneficiary of the desire of Italians for an end to the corruption and instability which had been the hallmark of more than 50 postwar Christian Democrat-dominated Governments.

Doubts about Signor Berlusconi — his huge business empire, his

control of television, his lack of political experience — were swept aside. When he fell in December 1994, however, it was not only because of disagreements among his coalition partners, but also because disillusion had set in.

If the anti-corruption drive was to be completed, many Italians thought, it would have to be done by a "technocratic" Government such as that led by Signor Dini, who came from the morally upright world of the central bank.

Yet no commentator is counting out Signor Berlusconi. Throughout the interim Dini Government he has hovered in the background, now demanding elections, now

favouring a "broad coalition" to include himself.

The charges relate to three bribes given between 1989 and 1992 to the tax authorities to ensure favourable tax inspection of three subsidiaries of Signor Berlusconi's Fininvest.

There is no doubt that the payments were made. Paolo Berlusconi, the former Prime Minister's brother, has admitted as much. He and Salvatore Sciascia, the head of Fininvest's tax department, are also in the dock.

Signor Berlusconi's defence is that the bribes were a "rare and isolated episode" of which he had no personal knowledge. He depicts the investigation as a politically

motivated act of malice inspired by Antonio de Pietro, the Milan magistrate who began the "Clean Hands" anti-corruption drive.

At the time, opinion polls showed that seven out of ten Italians thought he should stay in office. But then he overreached himself; he tried to use his prime ministerial powers to interfere in the proceedings. He also used his television channels to make his case and damn Signor de Pietro.

Many Italians still recall Signor Berlusconi's virtues: his energy, his free-market philosophy, his bold attempts to cut through the numerous regulations which hamper Italian business.

His aides pour scorn on the bribery charges, pointing out that his sheer wealth means he has no need to resort to backhanders.

But the more general charge levelled against Signor Berlusconi in retrospect, however, is that he failed to divest himself of his business empire while in high office, and so exposed himself to obvious conflicts of interest.

But he is still a towering figure, so much so that the heart of the matter at Milan will be whether it is plausible that he was unaware of financial skulduggery in his key companies. In the time-honoured formula, it is a question of what he knew and when he knew it.

Troops moved in for war of bluff with Chechens

## Russia extends deadline for hostages' release

FROM CARLOTTA GALL OUTSIDE PERVOMAISKOYE, DAGESTAN, AND THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA has given Chechen rebels holding more than 100 hostages in a village on the Dagestan border until today to free them.

The ultimatum, issued last night, came after two earlier deadlines expired yesterday. The extension was made apparently to enable Moscow's top two security officials, Mikhail Barsukov, head of the federal security service, who is in overall charge of the operation, and Anatoli Kulikov, the Interior Minister, to arrive at the tense scene.

Earlier, officials said Chechen snipers had shot at troops surrounding them, wounding up to four. But the Russians did not return fire. The claim could not be confirmed independently.

The war of bluff between the Russian military and the 150 Chechen gunmen holding the hostages intensified yesterday when hundreds of special troops moved on the village of Pervomaiskoye, only to withdraw again. At nightfall, the Russians sent in more tanks and vehicles towards Pervomaiskoye after neighbouring villages were plunged into darkness as the electricity was cut off.

All the indications yesterday morning were that the Russian military was finally preparing to storm the village and to free the hostages by force. The latest estimates suggest there are 116 of them, mostly abducted from the hospital in Kizlyar, the town the fighters raided last Tuesday.

On Saturday night, Russian jets dropped flares on Pervomaiskoye throughout the night. At dawn yesterday, more than 200 special troops were seen stealthily moving through the fog towards the village. Behind them, orange-red smoke drifted across the fields. Many carried long-barrelled sniper rifles.

Aleksandr Mikhailov, a spokesman for the intelligence service, said they had "enough force" to implement the mid-morning ultimatum to the gunmen to surrender.

However, if the show of force was intended to make the rebels back down, it seems not to have worked. At noon the special troops were driven out in buses, although a special field hospital set up

outside the village remained. The Chechens continue to be defiant. Salman Raduyev, their leader, said he would "fight to the end". He was still insisting that a delegation of Moscow politicians and journalists accompany his men into Chechnya in return for the hostages' freedom.

"Now that we have been deceived and blocked in this village, and they are not allowing us to move anywhere, we no longer believe anyone and we all have got ready to die," he told a reporter from *Izvestia*.

In Moscow, Gennadi Zyuganov, the leader of the Communist Party which topped last month's parliamentary elections, said he "did not understand" what the Government was up to. He said the crisis ought to be resolved successfully.

□ **Bodies found:** Russian police are examining the possibility that the discovery of bodies of five Dagestanis on Friday in the Moscow region is linked to the Chechen separatist movement.

Among the dead was a four-year-old child, Tass reported. The bodies, all showing signs of violence, were found in the town of Kolomna, southeast of Moscow, on Friday. The body of a fifth man, carrying Dagestani papers, was also found the same day in nearby Andreivka. (AFP)

## Strategy born of desperation

Moscow: The mass seizure of hostages by Chechen gunmen outside the borders of their republic is as much a sign of desperation as of their continuing strength (Thomas de Waal writes).

The main thrust of the strategy of Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen President, appears to be that, if he cannot win the war, he can at least ensure that the Russians lose it, and has blessed a strategy of lightning raids

inside Russia. "Now, with practically the whole of Chechnya destroyed, we have no option but to cross into your territory and destroy your towns and kill your people," General Dudayev told *Moskovsky Komsomolets* last week.

The rebels are still in control of the southern mountainous third of Chechnya, but have lost their capital, Grozny. Only a hard core of fighters remain with them.

The strategy shows no respect for civilian life or for the Chechens' Muslim neighbours in Dagestan, who have sheltered thousands of refugees.

General Dudayev freely admitted that the worse the situation was in Chechnya the better it was for him. "If they pull out, it will be much harder for me as President to rule the country," he said. He said he had no money to support the economy.



President Soares, who is bowing out after ten years, queues up to vote yesterday

## Socialist triumph in Lisbon

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN LISBON

JORGE SAMPAIO, the Socialist former Mayor of Lisbon, defeated Anibal Cavaco Silva, the former Prime Minister, in the election to succeed Mario Soares as President, state and private television stations reported last night.

According to exit polls released by SIC, Portugal's most popular channel, Senhor Sampaio, 56, a quiet-spoken lawyer, was poised to capture 59 per cent of the vote. Senhor Cavaco Silva, also 56, who steered Portugal through ten years of economic modernisation, was expected to win 41 per cent, the channel predicted. The state RTP television

station projected 56-60 per cent for Senhor Sampaio and 40-44 per cent for Senhor Cavaco Silva.

The predicted result marked the end of an era for Portugal, with the disappearance from the political scene of its two dominant figures — Senhor Soares, the affable defender of civil rights and tolerance, and Senhor Cavaco Silva, the austere economist and technocrat.

A win by Senhor Sampaio also gives Portugal a head of state and an administration of the same political hue for the first time since the 1974 "Revolution of the Carnations" restored democracy. Since that

time, voters had viewed the presidency as a counterweight, electing a head of state of a different persuasion to the dominant party in parliament.

Senhor Soares, first elected in 1986, kept Senhor Cavaco Silva's governments in check by his veto power and using his widespread popularity to influence public opinion. Constitutionally, yesterday's result was a clear reprimand for Senhor Cavaco Silva and a reversal of the 1991 legislative election results. That year, Senhor Cavaco Silva's Social Democrats won a landslide victory over Senhor Sampaio, then Socialist Party leader.

## Defection talk adds to gloom for Kohl

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, looked distinctly uneasy at the weekend as rumours mounted of large-scale defections from his junior coalition partners, the Free Democrats.

Three Free Democrat deputies are on record as saying they will vote against the Government unless a date is set for tax cuts. Other Free Democrats are ready to join the rebellion. Since Herr Kohl has only a ten-seat majority — and since two of his Christian Democrat deputies are ill — he seems to be heading for trouble.

The most disturbing factor is the prospect of Free Democrats crossing the floor to join the Social Democrats. At least four names are being mentioned.

The tiny, ailing liberal Free Democrat Party may simply be engaged in brinkmanship. In March there are three critical regional elections and the party is recording dismal results in the latest opinion polls.

Political pundits say the defection talk is serious and that added to other problems — the slowdown in the economy and the rise in unemployment — Herr Kohl has drifted into one of his most awkward political crises since becoming Chancellor in 1982.

Certainly the Chancellor is looking distinctly rattled. He has given interviews emphasising that Germany is not on the brink of a recession and that the Free Democrats will stay in business.

After months of extraordinarily high popularity ratings — encouraging the Christian Democrats to believe they could stage early elections and sweep up an absolute majority — the Chancellor is on a slide. The federal deficit overshoot the budgeted level by DM1.2 billion (£535 million), according to government statistics published at the weekend.

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## Croat-Muslim feud in Mostar puts peace deal at risk

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT CLINTON has warned the Croats not to endanger peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as concern grows over the violence and tension in the divided southern city of Mostar.

The Croats have been accused of deliberately stirring up trouble in the city, leading to fatal shootings this month, because of bitter opposition to the peace accord reached in Dayton, Ohio, under which Mostar is to be reunified.

Mr Clinton spoke to President Tudjman of Croatia in Zagreb on Saturday, and sought his help in keeping the Muslim/Croat Federation alive. The federation between the Muslims and Croats was signed in March 1994 and the peace accord states that Bosnia should be split between it and a Serb republic.

Mostar has become the focus of international attention because it is there that the federation appears to be most at risk and the peace accord depends on its survival. Mostar's eastern Muslim sector was destroyed by the Croats' most concentrated artillery barrage in the three and a half years of war.

Mr Clinton and Mr Tudjman agreed that Robert Owen, the American mediator for the federation, would go there to resolve the continuing ethnic conflict.

Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, who was in the city yesterday, spoke of Croat forces trying to disrupt the federation. He said: "We must bridge the hatred. The reunification under Dayton

is supposed to take place on Saturday. However, as the recent eruptions of violence have underlined, this city is still suffering from long-standing hatreds and feuds.

The Croat political figures in the area are among the most ultra-nationalist in Bosnia. They have always opposed the federation because it eclipses their power and destroys their ambition to turn Mostar into an ethnically pure capital of a Croat state.

East Mostar, home of 55,000 Muslims, was systematically attacked for ten months by the Croats who live on the other side of the Neretva river that divides the city. The Muslims have, however, always wanted Mostar to be multi-ethnic and, despite their sufferings, they back reunification.

Yesterday Herr Kinkel held talks with Mate Granic, the Croatian Foreign Minister, and Mohamed Sacirbey, his Bosnian counterpart. He also met Hans Koschnick, the German European Union administrator of Mostar, and the mayors and police chiefs of both parts of the city. Herr Koschnick is to present a report on the reunification in two weeks.

Admiral Leighton Smith, the NATO-led Implementation Force, who was also in Mostar, said that an officer would be appointed to liaise between his troops and the EU administration. He said that he was ready to help to reconcile Muslims and Croats in the city, but he emphasised that it was a civilian, not a military, matter.

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THE **TIMES**

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RUGBY UNION



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The day Cantona lost his cutting edge

YACHTING



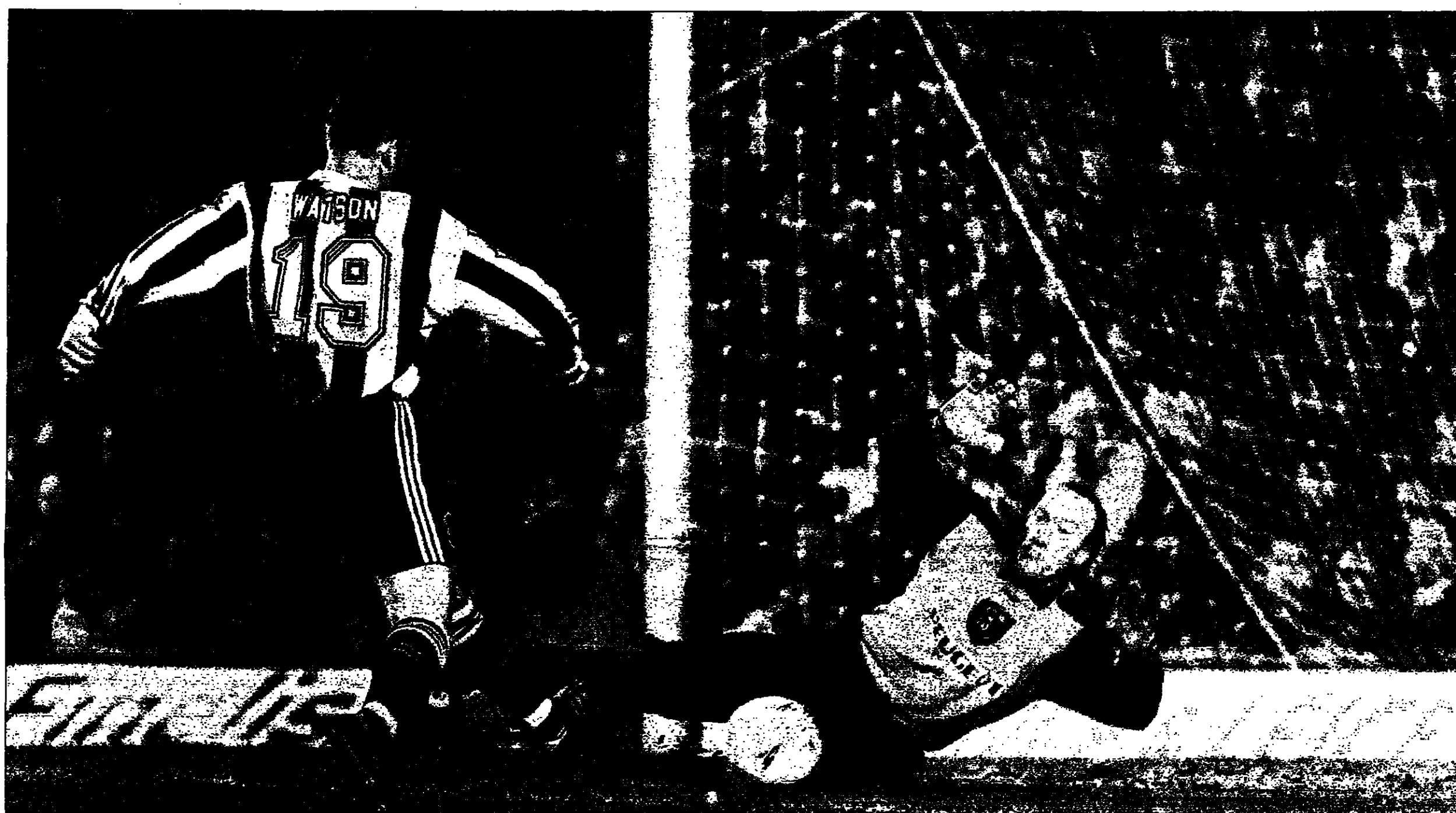
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Plain sailing for a young contender

# TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JANUARY 15 1996

## PREMIERSHIP LEADERS GO NINE POINTS CLEAR



Watson toe-pokes the ball past Ogrizovic, the outstretched Coventry goalkeeper, to give Newcastle the lead on the stroke of half-time at Highfield Road yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

## Watson leads way home

Coventry City ..... 0  
Newcastle United ..... 1

By ANDREW LONGMORE

AFTER three months of travel sickness, Newcastle United steadied their stomachs with a timely dose of away points at Highfield Road yesterday. It was their first FA Carling Premiership victory away from St James' for three months since November and, if not quite the sweetest medicine, the tonic to Newcastle's championship hopes was stout enough. The destiny of the championship is in their own hands. With a game in hand, Newcastle lead the Premiership by nine points.

The victory, earned by Salako's error and Watson's calmness moments before half-time, did little to suggest that the call of Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, for more inspiration had been answered positively; but the manner with which Newcastle went about their business put into perspective recent suggestions that they might not have the nerve for the fight.

Long gone was the cavalier spirit of the early days. This was time to roll up sleeves, time to dispense with imagination, rely on industry and, on a sandy pitch not ideal for the quick-passing game favoured by both managers, to hit and hope. "We got a bit lucky and, after that, it was all hands to the pump," was Keegan's perceptive summary. That the match was settled by a bad mistake rather than a piece of magic was an appropriate comment on a scrappy game. "A massive three points," Keegan added.

Only when Ndlovu went on for Telfer ten minutes from time did Coventry City look like penetrating Peacock and

Albert at the centre of the Newcastle defence. For all the bustle of the newly revived Coventry, Srnicek had but one save to make, in the tenth minute, from Salako's long-range drive.

Though Ogrizovic was equally inactive for long patches, Newcastle gained in composure after a hesitant start and, if Beardsley had not miskicked a presentable chance in the second half, the margin of victory would have been wider.

Beardsley, though, remained the one link with the pre-Christmas Newcastle. His

tireless running, probing and tackling put Ferdinand, his ambling partner at the front, to shame. Ferdinand had one chance, late in the game, but took a second too long to

control Watson's early cross. Otherwise, he seemed hampered by an injury to his left leg that required treatment within the first quarter.

However, a combination of Coventry's recent improvement, one defeat in their past six matches, and Newcastle's desultory away form, allied to a belief expressed by Arsenal in midweek that the Premiership leaders do not "like it up 'em", had invested yesterday with wider significance.

Not the least of the men on show was Peter Jones, the referee. Would he afford Ginola the protection that the Frenchman had so markedly lacked when he was sent off by Gerald Ashby at Highbury? The answer, happily for all but the Coventry supporters, was encouraging.

Unlike Ashby, Jones could spot the forgery a mile away, and an early piece of theatricals by Ginola brought a look of disdain and a call to play on. When Pickering did catch up with his tormentor, from behind, Jones rightly reached straight for the book.

Not that the supporters let Ginola off lightly. He was jeered for every touch. What a jamboree the European championships will be. Whole teams of foreigners to bait. Mindful of the threat of Dublin and the pace of Salako, Keegan reverted to the trusted 4-4-2 with Watson on the right of midfield. Coventry countered by pushing up quickly at the back and hitting early balls for Whelan and Dublin to chase. Harried in midfield, they were compressed at the front and, with Ferdinand almost a passenger, surprisingly short on attacking options.

### TOP OF THE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Newcastle U	22	15	3	3	43	18	51
Manchester U	23	12	6	5	41	27	42

control Watson's early cross. Otherwise, he seemed hampered by an injury to his left leg that required treatment within the first quarter.

### NEWCASTLE UNITED ON THE ROAD

HOME				AWAY			
DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RESULT	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	RESULT
Aug 19	Coventry	3-0	W	Aug 22	Bolton	3-1	W
Aug 30	Blackburn	1-0	W	Aug 27	Sheff Wed	2-0	W
Sep 16	Millwall	3-1	W	Sep 9	Southampton	0-1	L
Sep 23	Sheff Wed	2-0	W	Sep 29	Bristol City	5-0	W
Oct 6	Sheff City	3-1	W	Oct 1	Everton	3-1	W
Oct 21	Whitby	6-1	W	Oct 14	QPR	3-2	W
Nov 4	Liverpool	2-1	W	Oct 25	Sheff City	4-0	W
Nov 8	Blackburn	1-0	W	Oct 29	Tottenham	1-1	D
Nov 25	Leeds	2-1	W	Nov 18	Jason Villa	1-1	D
Dec 16	Everton	1-0	W	Nov 25	Liverpool	1-0	W
Dec 23	Nottm For	3-1	W	Dec 2	Whitby	3-3	D
Jan 2	Arsenal	2-0	W	Dec 9	Chelsea	0-1	L
				Dec 26	Man Utd	0-2	L
				Jan 7	Chelsea	1-1	D
				Jan 10	Arsenal	0-2	L
				Jan 13	Coventry	1-0	W
TOTAL: P12, W12				TOTAL: P16, W8, D4, L4			

\*Coin-Operated Cup  
\*\*FA Cup

### COVENTRY TRIP CURES TRAVEL SICKNESS

G308 DIE

### Venables backed for technical vacancy

By DAVID MADDOCK

TERRY VENABLES may not yet be lost to the England cause, despite his apparently acrimonious split with several senior figures within the Football Association. The departing national coach emerged yesterday as a surprise contender for the role of technical director to the English game.

Venables has suggested that he made the decision to stand down because he failed to solicit adequate support from key members of the FA's international committee; mainly Noel White, the chairman, and Ian Stott, a member of the three-man sub-committee that appointed him. Yesterday, however, Stott offered the backing that Venables seems to desire by suggesting that he has his total support as a candidate for the new position of technical director. Such backing is significant because Stott is also a member of the FA's technical control board, which will make the appointment.

Stott said: "I do feel that Terry may not need to be lost to English football. My own view is that he would be a likely candidate for the director of coaching position. I feel we should consider this, when the dust is settled, as a way of putting Terry's experience to future use."

New ball game, page 16

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# Interactive cricket is a wheeze for Gattling

When even Charles Colville sounds depressed, you know that there must be something seriously wrong with English cricket. "So goodbye from Centurion Park," Colville, his spirits lower than Mark Ramprakash's batting average, said. "At least it didn't rain."

It was clear that Bob Willis's efforts to cheer him up had failed. No great surprise there — being cheered up by Willis is a bit like sharing a wet thistle field with Ewerton — but at least the former England captain had tried.

Faced with a co-commentator who, after two defeats in two days, looked like he would never again scream "big appeal!", Willis dug deep. "If the England management could just make a few tough decisions, they can still win the

series 4-3. Charles, and go off in high spirits to the World Cup," Colville looked doubtful.

He had every reason to. For there seems no end to the one-way sporting traffic beamed back by satellite from South Africa. First, we watched them win the Test series on Sky, a triumph that they look likely to seal (Willis' miracles apart) by winning the one-day internationals. In three weeks' time, if we watch them pick up the African Nations' Cup on Eurosport... well, nobody will be in the least bit surprised.

Small wonder that South Africans have had to quickly adapt to enjoying their sporting triumphs two at a time. At one point on Saturday afternoon, a huge cheer went round the Wanderers. With the home side at 73 for four, this seemed



MATTHEW BOND  
TV ACTION REPLAY

a touch premature — until Colville intervened — "South Africa are now three up against Cameroon." There went my plans for Saturday night. Still, there is plenty more football to come on Eurosport: perhaps Archie Macpherson could reveal the cricket scores in revenge.

For the game yesterday, Michael Atherton gave himself the day off. In the Sky commentary box, there were one or two voices that sounded like they needed a day off, too. Ian Botham, for instance, who

started the tour so well, has become positively taciturn. Like everyone else, they have been trying to guess England's World Cup squad, but with little agreement. "If it came down to Smith or Stewart, Ian..." "It won't come down to that, Charles." "But if it did?" "It won't." Undeterred, Colville moved on to Smith or Hick: who was the better all-rounder? "Well, Robin Smith doesn't bowl."

It is tempting to blame Colville for these awkward exchanges, but that would be unfair. I suspect that, for the ever-competitive Botham, it is a case of only singing when he is winning. If he is serious about commentary, he needs to learn how to share the burden a little more equally and to brighten things up a bit. Either David Gower or Mark Nicholas would be able to point him in the right direction.

Perhaps Sky should have sent Botham off with Paul Allott for a rest-cure at the World Masters Cricket series in Sharjah. In fact, given the cricketing talent in the Sky box (even Colville made it to the Surrey second XI), perhaps it should have entered a team.

The results in the Emirates were much the same as they have been in South Africa — Desmond Haynes and Gordon Greenidge put on 137 for the first wicket in West Indies' eight-wicket defeat of England in the final — but everyone seemed to be having a lot more fun.

A particular highlight was a microphone link that allowed the commentary team to talk to Mike Gatting, the England captain, while he was fielding. Between puffs, pants and the jangle of his wedding ring ("sorry, I've got it on a necklace"), Gatting kept Michael Holding, the commentator, fully up with the game. Suddenly, John Embury screamed the wholesale destruction with a maiden over. "What's happening?" Holding asked. "I dunno." Gatting replied from gully. "I'll just go and ask Dessie."

He did: "Dessie, you suddenly decided you're going to block?" Interactive cricket had arrived. Let us hope it leaves sharpish.

## Doyle facing battle to keep presidency

THE British Cycling Federation (BCF) faces a presidential crisis only five weeks after Tony Doyle was elected successor to Ian Emmerson (Peter Bryan writes). On Saturday, the BCF executive board of directors asked Doyle to resign as president after a vote of no confidence in him. The board has also called an emergency national council meeting in March, "to debate the president's future", and has appointed Colin Clews as acting chairman.

Last night, Doyle said: "I remain president and do not recognise the appointment of Colin Clews as chairman. I am utterly determined to complete my term of office." The BCF asked Doyle to resign after "questioning his honesty and integrity to carry out the duties of president and properly represent the federation and its members".

## Amateur sides triumph

RUGBY LEAGUE: Two amateur sides will, for the first time, take their place in the draw for the fourth round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup today (Christopher Irvine writes). When the names of the championship and first division clubs go into the hat, they will be joined by those of West Hull and Thatch Heath.

In winning 35-20 at Highfield yesterday, West Hull emulated Beverley, who last season became the first amateur side in 86 years to eliminate professional opposition. Ironically, Highfield were the victims that day, too. Thatch Heath accounted for Chorley, 27-12.

## Hair under attack

CRICKET The Australian Cricket Board said yesterday that it would consider a complaint by Sri Lanka about the Australian umpire, Darrell Hair. Sri Lanka's dissatisfaction with Hair — the first umpire to call Muttiah Muralitharan, the off-spinner, for throwing — came to a head after their 83-run World Series Cup defeat by Australia on Friday. Yesterday, Sri Lanka beat West Indies by 16 runs.

## Blundell switches track

MOTOR RACING: Mark Blundell, right, is following the course set by Nigel Mansell by switching from Formula One to IndyCar racing. Blundell, who was unfortunate not to be offered grand prix drives at Sauber-Ford or Tyrrell Yamaha for the coming season, has signed for the PacWest racing group to compete in the 1996 World Series.



## Thompson tunes up

HOCKEY: The Great Britain men's team concluded a successful training weekend at Bisham Abbey with a 5-1 victory over Malaysia yesterday. Robert Thompson scoring a hat-trick (Sydney Friskin writes). This followed a 1-0 win over the same rivals the previous day. The team leaves tomorrow for the Olympic qualifying tournament that starts in Barcelona on Friday.

## Sheffield's steely grip

ICE HOCKEY: Sheffield Steelers moved three points clear at the top of the premier division after a 9-3 home victory over Durham Wasps on Saturday. Durham led 2-0 after the first period, but Sheffield then took charge, winning the second period 5-0 and the third 4-1. Firm handling by Dan Emerson, the Canadian referee, ensured that there was no repetition of the recent animosity between the teams.

## Wimbledon record

RUGBY UNION: Wimbledon won 18-6 away to Old Reigatians on Saturday to set a Courage Clubs Championship record of 26 consecutive matches without defeat and take over the leadership of London II South. They were last beaten on December 4, 1993, 5-3 by Raynes Park, their local rivals, and have won all their league matches since while progressing through Surrey I and London III South West.

### SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather (Spm)	Last snow
	L	U	Piste	Offp	
AUSTRIA					
Lech	40	80	good	fair	worm sun 2 8/
		(Still good skiing at higher altitudes)			
St Anton	10	135	fair	heavy	worm fine 1 8/
	(Mid and upper runs still reasonable; Kappell rocky)				
FRANCE					
Avoriaz	100	135	good	varied	good fine -1 7/
	(Good piste skiing under sunny skies)				
La Tana	50	65	icy	varied	closed fine -1 7/
	(Icy pistes in most areas until softened by sun)				
Tignes	75	130	good	varied	good fine -3 12/
	(Good piste skiing; some powder still available)				
Val d'Isère	70	150	good	heavy	worm fine 3 12/
	(All main areas good; some stones low down)				
SWITZERLAND					
Arosa	30	50	good	varied	fair fine -2 8/
	(Colder weather and excellent grooming; good skiing)				
Verbier	75	110	fair	varied	worm sun -3 7/
	(Good on upper slopes; icy/rocky lower down)				
Villars	10	80	fair	magpie	closed fine 3 7/
	(No change in conditions; best snow above 1,800 metres)				
Source: Six Clubs of Great Britain 1. <i>Lower altitude 1,000m</i>					

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper.

## English rugby in disarray after junior clubs reject elite way forward

# Brittle takes chair as members revolt

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IF THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) did not have a crisis of leadership before yesterday, it has one now. The members turned on the executives in Birmingham yesterday by rejecting their nominee as chairman and the union's special general meeting broke up in disarray.

The RFU's response to the declaration of an open game by the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) was firmly rejected. What became an increasingly militant meeting was fuelled by inadequate handling of the whole debate and a cap was placed on the union's humiliation when Cliff Brittle, from Staffordshire, polled 647 votes against the 332 cast in favour of John Jeavons-Fellows, the executive committee's own nominee.

The union will now be forced to reconvene within the next six weeks and to stage a meeting devoted to one single principle: whether rugby in England is prepared to accept an open game or whether it

will insist upon retaining amateurism. If the latter, then a split becomes virtually inevitable, so far have England's leading clubs prepared themselves for professionalism. If the mood of the meeting is taken to extremes, then the RFU — which is now paying its own international players — would have little option but to resign from the IRFB.

The afternoon became an exercise in contradiction after the club representatives accepted the deletion of the word "amateur" from the game's regulations — having received an assurance that they could subsequently make their own rules to promote amateurism.

Yet speakers from the floor then made it perfectly apparent that the one issue upon which they sought debate was that of amateurism against professionalism.

With Bill Bishop, the RFU president, struggling desperately to control events, David Hiles, the secretary of Pinner and Grammatians and a former trade union official, took the stand to declare: "I have never been to such a shambles as this. I think everyone who came here believed it would be an historic occasion and now all we have is an enabling process."

At his instigation, debate on the RFU commission report was deferred in favour of a general discussion on the way forward once the RFU had collected the results of a questionnaire on the main points raised by the commission. Afterwards, Bishop and Tony Hall, the secretary of the RFU, admitted that they had misjudged the mood of rugby clubs around the country. "The general view had seemed to be in line with the commission views," Bishop said. At one stage, he told the meeting that they had no confidence in the chair, and it was hard to disagree.

Ironically, the success of Brittle, 54 and generally perceived as the nominee of rugby's middle England, places the whole debate in his hands. He must now take his place at the head of an executive committee which chose not to vote for him, though he denied that this would pose problems. "I ask them to search their consciences and I hope we can pull together," he said.

"I know exactly what the role should be. It's impossible that England should vote to retain amateurism."

"I have spoken to people around the country and there is an overwhelming desire to accept what the international board announced in August. The general membership of this union will accept the seamless game."

That conclusion was not always apparent yesterday. Any goodwill for the RFU that existed among the 800 club delegates was lost after a saga of unnecessary expressions of support for the two candidates for the chairmanship was followed by an hour-long break while voting took place.

Stirred by John Burgess, a former RFU president, who called for England to control its own destiny regardless of the IRFB diktat, the floor came to gun control.

Tim Lord, representing the Honourable Artillery Company and whose MP father, Michael, was responsible for a

nationwide poll of clubs over amateurism, gained applause when he proposed that the RFU debate, in open forum, "whether 100 years will be tossed aside. The essential issue is whether the game becomes open or not."

This was so clearly the issue dearest to the hearts of club representatives that the RFU's failure to detect it became embarrassing. "It's the future of the game that is paramount, not the winning or losing the chairmanship," Brittle said. That future appears now to be more concerned with the past.



Brittle, the new RFU chairman, in Birmingham yesterday. Photograph: Russell Sach

representatives that the RFU's failure to detect it became embarrassing. "It's the future of the game that is paramount, not the winning or losing the chairmanship," Brittle said. That future appears now to be more concerned with the past.

Weekend rugby, page 28

## Top clubs aiming to match limited success

THE deteriorating relationship between the top clubs in Scotland and the Scottish Rugby Union is set to worsen with the news that Peter Wheeler, the chairman of English First Division Rugby Limited, and Gareth Davies, the chief executive of Cardiff, are to address the ten senior sides north of the border in Edinburgh tomorrow (Mark Souster writes).

The clubs are determined to be involved in the future direction of the domestic game. Wheeler and Davies will outline their experiences, which include the formation of limited companies in England and Wales to provide a strong voice for clubs.

Keith Robertson, the director of rugby at Melrose, one of the prime movers behind the push for club, not district, representation in Europe, said that forming a company in Scotland was not on the agenda, but he expected closer ties between clubs in future.

"I expect we will form a group, and there will be differences of opinion, but that doesn't mean top clubs should not have a strong say in the direction of the game in Scotland," he said.

Scott Hastings is expected to play against Ireland in Dublin on Saturday despite missing Scotland's squad session at Murrayfield this week-end with a bruised right knee.

John Manson, the Stirling County and Scotland prop, has been banned until May 12 for being sent off for North and Midlands in the inter-district championship.

## Open favourites do little to justify their top billing

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN MELBOURNE

A SENSE of disorder fell across the eve of the Australian Open. Yesterday, the men's favourite was beaten in an exhibition match, the women's favourite almost lost in straight sets in the final of a tournament in Sydney and the longest recorded spell of cool summer weather here came to a spectacular end.

The temperature, which for 35 successive days had not reached 30 degrees, exploded up to an oppressive 40 degrees as Pete Sampras completed his preparations. The holder of the Wimbledon and US Open titles formed, with Stefan Edberg, the centrepiece of the traditional open day staged at Flinders Park for charity.

Sampras, the victim of influenza, arrived belatedly in Australia and has taken part in only a couple of matches. Neither was competitive and their significance should not be overestimated, but he was

first defeated by Boris Becker in Kooyong, then by Edberg. Between those defeats, he was described by Andre Agassi as playing on a higher plane than everybody else. Yet Sampras's status as the world No 1 will be threatened over the next fortnight, not only by his American colleague but also by Thomas Muster.

The computer points to be gained for success in grand slam championships have rightly been increased and Sampras and Agassi, the runner-up and winner, respectively, last year, have more to lose retrospectively (the best 14 results over the preceding year are considered) than Muster. He lasted only until the third round.

Uncharacteristically, Muster chose not to practise. The heat was considered excessive, not only overhead but also from media representatives seeking confirmation of a supposed friendship with the Duchess of York. Ronnie Leight, his coach, said on his behalf that the pair had merely talked on the flight from Qatar to Sydney.

There, Monica Seles was a point away from going down to a 19-year-old who turned professional only two months before Seles was stabbed in 1993. She returned last August, she has submitted only in the final of the US Open, to Steffi Graf, now absent through injury.

Only two others — Jana Novotna, another missing from the field, and Andre Huber — had taken a set off her. Yesterday, Seles was outmanoeuvred by Lindsay Davenport before recovering to collect the 34th title of her career, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3.

A trio of British entrants have been spared the ordeal of competing on the opening day, when the mercury is expected to rise even higher. All three face, for the first time, figures whose name will be dauntingly familiar.

Greg Rusedski takes on Becker, the No 4 seed. He was the champion in 1991 but, remarkably, has since failed to win a match here. Tim Henman meets Petr Korda, who is on his way back towards the world's top 20, having opened the year by winning in Qatar. Clare Wood came through the qualifying competition but received scant reward by being drawn against Conchita Martinez, the No 2 seed.

According to the seedings, the last eight men should line up as Sampras v Thomas Enqvist, Becker v Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Michael Chang v Muster and Jim Courier v Agassi. The quarter-finals in the women's competition should feature Seles v Iva Majoli, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario v Gabriela Sabatini, Kimiko Date v Mary Pierce and Huber v Martinez.

## Sad Syed is left cursing his luck

By RICHARD EATON

WHILE Lisa Lomas qualified for Atlanta with her seventh event in the Olympic qualifying event in Manchester on Saturday, Matthew Syed, England's other leading table tennis player, missed it by the width of a ball and by the opinion of the Italian referee, who reinstated Zoltan Bartofi, his opponent, from Hungary, just as he was about to be disqualified by the Austrian umpire.

Bartofi, 19, had allegedly been abusing the Austrian official in German, but Antonella Flori, the referee, felt insufficiently sure about precise translations to impose upon him so drastic a punishment. Bartofi, who was 6-11 down in the final game at the time, recovered to win 23-21, 21-18, 15-21, 20-22, 21-19.

A controversial fourth game saw Chen Xinhua, the Great Britain coach, given a red card for illegal coaching and Syed reach game point with a shot that the umpire thought touched an edge but the Hungarians believed hit the side of the table. After a long dispute, the decision stood.

"The Hungarians called Matt a cheat which was completely out of order," Donald Parker, the Britain captain, said. "Three times, Bartofi had edges in the final game, so Matt was unlucky."

Results, page 30

## Chaloner's stamina secures final place

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

THE improved form that took Mark Chaloner from relative obscurity to a world team squash title at the end of last year was sustained at Edgbaston Priory in Birmingham yesterday when he produced another courageous performance to defeat Del Harris, the No 2 seed, and reach the final of the QM national championship.

In a 94-minute semi-final, Chaloner, who played third string behind Harris in the England side that captured their first title in the world team championship in Cairo in November, fought back from 3-0 down in the fifth

urated with perspiration after 76 minutes of frantic effort. However, he will almost certainly look back on the decision as an error of judgment. "I am leaving wet marks all over the floor," Harris said at the time. Yet he had also been leaving his opponent gasping in a condition that Chaloner could only describe later as "knackered".

By the time that the shoe-change was complete, however, Chaloner, the younger man at 23, had recovered. It was Chaloner who forced the pace in the next rally, pressuring a backhand error from an opponent who earlier had repeatedly retrieved similar shots at full length in the back-court and scrambled up to cover the subsequent drop in a front corner.

Now, it was Harris, whose outrageous shot-play had taken him to the point of execution before he fired balls into the tin. Another critical point came with a let appeal from Chaloner high on his backhand at 5-4 down. Harris insisted that it was beyond his opponent's reach, but Tony Parker, the referee, decided that the situation was worth a penalty stroke to Chaloner.

From 5-5, Chaloner turned the screw, killing any hope of a last corner-attack with a long precision drop on the backhand for game-ball and then bringing a tired backhand return from Harris that dropped into the tin.

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# Robson diverted by difficulties on the home front

**BY PETER BALL**

Full results and league tables . Page 26

Perhaps their hard week caught up with them. Although Juninho and Stamp

**MIDDLESBROUGH (5-2-2-1):** G Walsh — C Liddle, N Pearson, S Vickers, P Whelan, C Blackmore — P Stamp, J Pollock (Sub: A Moore, 38min) — N Barnby, Juninho — J-A Florioit.

**ARSENAL (4-4-2):** D Seaman — L Dixon, A Adams, M Kown, G McGowan — P Merson, D Platt, J Jansen, G Helder — D Bergkamp, I Wright.

Referee: G Poll



**By ALYSON RUDD**

Francis, though, does not concur; he says that pressure is "part and parcel of the job". The former England captain

It is an approach that Francis outlined to Jimmy Armfield when interviewed about the vacancy at the



If, however, by some bizarre legal inadequacy, Tottenham are banned from Europe, Francis might view the England job as his best chance to discover how he would fare against continental opposition.

**TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR** (4-4-2): I. Walsby — D. Austin, S. Nethercott, G. Mubutu, Edinburg — S. Campbell, D. Caskey, Dossell, R. Rosenthal — E. Spenningham, G. Armstrong.

**MANCHESTER CITY** (4-4-2): E. Immel — M. Summerbee, K. Symons, K. Curle, R. Ingram — R. Ekalund (sub M. Brown, 61min), J. Lomas, G. Filcroitt, G. Kunkladze — N. Quinn, U. Rösler.

Referee: D. Gallacher

### Earle: foolhardy

**By PAT GIBSON**

Television proved that Earle had a right to feel aggrieved when he claimed that he had used his head and not his hand in trying to clear a cross by Curcic. Mike Reed, the referee, awarded Bolton Wanderers a penalty that

The latest incident will strengthen Wimbledon's conviction that they are

The arrival of Ian Porterfield as

**BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2):** K Branagan — S Green, G Bergsson, A Stubbs, J Phillips — S Curdie, R Sneekes — S Sellers, M Pasetkainen — J McGinty; N Blake (sub: D Lee, 65min).

**WIMBLEDON (4-4-2):** N Sullivan — K Cunningham, C Perry, A Reeves, A Kirnble — E Ekoku, R Earle, C Leonhardsen, M Gayle — M Harford, D Holdsworth (sub: J Euell, 63).

Referee: M Reed

**BY IAN RODGERS**

The enthusiasm and guile of Steve Nicol, Chris Waddle and Des Walker prompted a total dominance of the first half against a Liverpool side who "were never really in it".

The vitality, which was conspicuous by its absence in the first period, returned and Fowler and Collymore went

**SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (3-5-2):** C Woods — P Atkinson, S Nicol, D Walker — I Nolan, C Waddle, G Whittingham, M Diogny (sub: G Hyde, 86min), L Briscoe — D Kovacevic (sub: M Bright, 78), D Hirst.

**LIVERPOOL (3-5-2):** D James — P Babb, N Ruddock, J Scals — R Jones (sub: I Rush, 80), J Barnes, M Thomas, J McAteer, S McManaman — S Collymore, R Fowler.

**Referee:** D Elroy.

**BY RICHARD HOBSON**

confirmed his status as one of English football's most gifted players as barely scoring at all.

Three of his four league goals came against Nottingham Forest on the opening

one point from the relegation zone, senses a general improvement in Le Tissier's play of late, despite a palpable shortage of confidence. He also points in mitigation to minor injuries that, while

Crossley – D Lytle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce – S Stone, C Bart-Williams, S Gemmell, I Wren – K Campbell (sub: J Lee, 70min), B Roy.

**SOUTHAMPTON (4-5-1):** D Beasant – A Nelson, J Dodd, K Monkou, S Charlton – F Bennett (sub: P McDonald, 58), B Venison, J Magilton, N Maddison (sub: G Watson, 66), M Le Tissier – N Shipperley  
Referee: S Lodge.

BY IYO TENNANT

their football that culminated, almost inevitably, in a goal for Shearer. In league, if not international football, he remains the nonpareil.

occasion, Sinclair and Allen combined to give Wilkins a chance that he put over the crossbar by several feet.



**QUEENS PARK RANGERS** (4-3-3). J. Sommer - D. Bardsley, A. McDonald, S. Yates, T. Chelms - R. Williams (sub: D. Macleod, 84min), N. Quachie, M. Brazier (sub: M. Halsey, 45) - A. Impoy (sub: G. Goodridge, 73), B. Allen, T. Sinclair.

**BLACKBURN ROVERS** (4-4-2). T. Flowers - H. Berg, C. Coleman, C. Hendry, J. Kenna - S. Ripley, D. Batty, L. Boninen, K. Gallagher - A. Shocarr, M. Newell.

*Referee: G. Ashby*

## Russell Kempson sees Leeds finish a hectic programme with a 2-0 defeat of West Ham

For Wilkinson, 52, it would surely be foolish to enter such

matches in 21 days, losing only once. "I feel like the manager of a road crew after a series of one-night shows," he said. "It shouldn't happen to an ani-

was unable to fully absolve his vanquished opponent. "I didn't see what hit me and I can't really remember much about it," he said. However, he

Chapman, R Wallace (sub: A Gray, 75).  
WEST HAM UNITED (3-4-1-2): L Mioduski  
— M Rieper, S Potts, J Dicks — J Moncur,  
Bishop, D Williamson, K Rowland (sub: R  
Slater, 45) — M Hughes — I Dowie, A  
Cottee.  
Referee: P Danson

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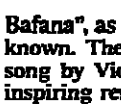
# Masterful Masinga leads one-nation party

Rob Hughes, football correspondent,  
reports from Johannesburg on a  
day of mutual sporting admiration



Two players resident in Leeds, of all places, returned victorious to the African continent over the weekend. First, and most important to the vast majority of the population here, Philani Masinga, the reserve centre forward of Leeds United, scored one goal, created two more, produced the touch of a Brazilian and was applauded by 100,000 spectators at the FNB Stadium on Saturday. Nelson Mandela was there to share yet another of these sporting days that are helping to bring the whole South African nation together, as South Africa beat Cameroon 3-0 in the first match of the 1996 African Nations Cup.

Within 24 hours, Tony Yeboah, the Ghanaian who keeps Masinga out of the Leeds team, scored for Ghana against the Ivory Coast in Port Elizabeth. This being Yeboah, it was, of course, a thunderous athletic volley, struck from 13 yards with the left foot high off the



ground. What is new? Goal-of-the-month Yeboah has merely picked up his English rhythm.

Saturday was black Africa's sporting day in Johannesburg. They began walking towards the stadium from miles around as early as 8.0 in the morning for the 3pm kick-off. Many arrived without tickets, with little hope, but in the event they got in. FNB's capacity is something around 80,000 seats, but this close to Soweto, a heartland of footballing pride and escapism throughout the apartheid decades, the police did not have the heart to refuse admission.

In the skies, jet aeroplanes came close to reconstructing nature, leaving vapour trails in rainbow colours symbolic of Mandela's new South Africa. Not many were white, and the predominantly black South Africa team have asked that more of their white brothers come and join "Bafana

Bafana", as the football "Boys" are known. The audience was led in song by Vicky Samson, with her inspiring rendition of *My African Dream... An End to Confusion*.

Not a complete end. For, as the flags of what should have been 16 competing nations were paraded, there was the hollow absence of external politics can inflict on sport. Nigeria, the last champions of the vast continent, had been refused by General Sani Abacha, their military dictator, the opportunity to defend their title.

Footballers sacrificed like soldiers to the whim of a politician. It left a sour taste in a day of liberated enthusiasm; and, though President Mandela is the perfect diplomat

and populist when deploying sport for integration, we later learnt that he had that morning denounced in Pretoria a small rump of militant Afrikaners trying, he said, to preserve unjust privileges. He warned them that they face being left on the political sidelines, but in the stadium, he spoke only of African brotherhood, of South Africa being admitted for the first time to the Nations Cup — and then the action. Masinga, the last player to arrive in Johannesburg after being obliged to play for Leeds against Reading in the Coca-Cola Cup, had asked to be left out, to have time to get over jet lag and to acclimatise to altitude. Clive Barker, the pugnacious South African coach, persuaded Masinga to play. His goal in the fourteenth minute, was a gift from the negligent Cameroon defence. Before half-time, he helped Mark Williams of Wolverhampton Wanderers, to score the second and, after 54 minutes, Masinga produced the most stunning of backheels so that John Moshoeu could score the third.

The South Africans, isolated from all sports for so long, have begun rethinking the powers of support and motivation. On the field at half-time, Francois Pienaar, the captain of the rugby world champions, led most of his white colleagues with a banner proclaiming: "One team, one country, Amabokoboko [Springboks] support Bafana Bafana". Their reception was rapturous, the sporting divides were united and, within 24 hours, the football players who had defeated the no-longer Indomitable Lions of Cameroon took the

field at Centurion Park to return the gesture to the South Africa cricket team.

We are learning by the minute of how sport, which helped to break apartheid, is becoming again the crux of South African feelings. There is a rough edge of crime in the inner-city areas. Playing games can cover only so much of a nation's problems, but here, where players in the two teams had been flown from their clubs in eight countries, came the reminder that sport can be the way out of all of this. Mark Fish, tall and young and one of only three whites in the South Africa team, played so well, gave such an impression of courage and force and inspiration from defence, that he looked ready-made for Europe. Last night the agents were being dispatched, at least one representing an English club, offering to make the 21-year-old Fish the sport's latest millionaire. Money talks in every land.

## Fates conspire against Frenchman and his team in their pursuit of the Premiership

# Cantona rages against the injustices of life

Manchester United ..... 0  
Aston Villa ..... 0

By OLIVER HOIT

ERIC CANTONA stalked off the pitch without shaking a single hand on Saturday. Perhaps it was supposed to be in keeping with the new shaven-headed look that, in tandem with his upturned collar and his peacock chest puffed out in frustration, he seemed even meaner than usual, even scarier to defences already jittery at the prospect of facing up to him. Whatever the reason, when the final whistle went, he turned on his heels and stomped towards the tunnel like a horse with blinkers. Nobody was stupid enough to offer any consoling words.

Against the competent journeymen from Aston Villa, Cantona's panache had, for once, deserted him at Old Trafford. The malaise that has seen his team win just twice in the past nine FA Carling Premiership games seems to be getting to him, too. Long after many of his team-mates had resigned themselves to the fact that they were not going to get the run of the ball, Cantona raged against the

prospect of a goalless draw — but the inspiration just would not come.

He dropped deeper and deeper to try to dredge something from the arid landscape, but there was nothing back there either. He seemed bewildered by his side's inability to break down their stubborn opponents and made little effort to hide his disgust with the finishing ineptitude of Cole, who squandered the best two chances of the match.

If there was any consolation for Cantona the philosopher, it was in some slightly surreal events that suggested that not everything was as it should be in the world in Stretford on Saturday. The stadium disc jockeys spent five minutes discussing the absence of Dwight Yorke from the Villa line-up and his prospects with Trinidad and Tobago in the African Nations Cup. When they tried to test the emergency tone at half-time, simply Red came on instead.

Even Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, played his own burlesque cameo in this world of the bizarre after the match. He lamented the lack of height of Gary Neville, his centre half, "If he was an inch taller, he

would be the best centre half in Britain," Ferguson said. "His father is 6ft 2in as well. Life is not fair. I would check the milkman."

In between these heavy hints, Cantona and his colleagues had seen absolute proof that subversive elements were at work. The understanding between Giggs and the Frenchman that appears almost telepathic at times broke down completely. Giggs made a run to the right, Cantona laid the ball neatly off to the far post, Giggs clipped a delicate pass to the near post. Those deep intakes of breath, that betray Cantona's frustration, became ubiquitous.

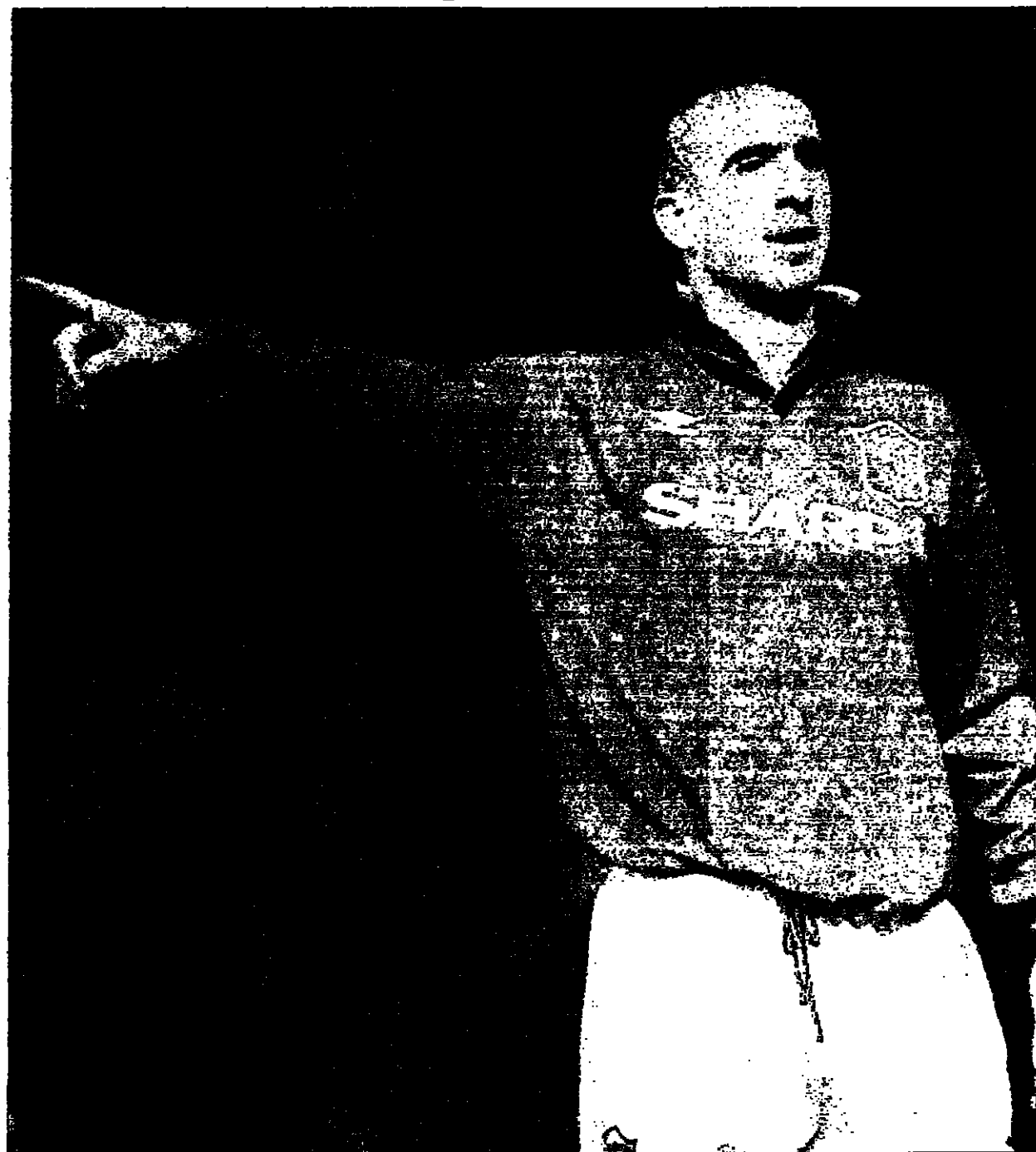
Sharpe was a sadly emasculated version of the flying winger he once was, buffeted by enraged screams from Schmeichel that greeted his every mistake. Keane, Ferguson's alternative to Robert Lee as the best midfielder player in Britain, abandoned the idea of surging runs for a deeper, almost sedentary, role that robbed him of much of his recent effectiveness.

Cole's feel for the bizarre has deserted him of late in the form of a couple of cracking goals, but he fited in perfectly with the atmosphere on Saturday. In the 28th minute, the £7 million man, the centre forward who could not miss even a half-chance when he was at Newcastle United, ran on to a cross from Butt with the goal at his mercy. Full contact meant a certain goal from six yards out, but he glanced it wide to the left.

Twenty minutes from the end, he did it again. United's best move of the game began with Cantona's flick to Butt and Butt's pass to Cole. He advanced on goal, but fired high and wide to the left. Cantona fell to his knees, beating the ground in despair.

In United's defence, Villa perfectly fitted Ferguson's description of a "really dour, uncompromising side", although, in Draper, with his tenacity, long, accurate passes and refusal to give away possession even once, they had the best player on the pitch, with only Giggs as a rival.

Villa packed their defence and tried to hit United on the



Cantona tries in vain to direct his suffering team-mates during a frustrating afternoon at Old Trafford

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE				
	Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1 Newcastle	22	51	+25	WWLWW
2 Manchester Utd	22	47	+18	WWLWW
3 Tottenham	22	41	+10	WWLWW
4 Arsenal	22	38	+10	WWLWW
5 Nottingham	22	37	+2	LWWLW
6 Aston Villa	21	36	+12	DWLWD
7 Blackburn	22	35	+5	DWWDD
8 Everton	22	35	+3	WWLWD
9 Leeds	22	33	+8	LWLWD
10 Bolton	22	33	+1	WLLLL
11 Chelsea	22	21	-1	WLDWD
12 Sheffield Wed	22	0	0	WDLWD
13 Wimbledon	22	-10	-10	LWLLL
14 Southampton	22	-14	-14	DWWLL
15 Coventry	22	-12	-12	LDLDD
16 Middlesbrough	22	-16	-16	LWWDL
17 Norwich City	22	-19	-20	DLWLW
18 Bournemouth	22	-17	-17	WLLLL
19 Burnley	22	-22	-22	DLLWL
20 Bristle	22	-22	-22	DLLWL

## Hoddle left in the dark as Hughes hits fever pitch

Everton ..... 1  
Chelsea ..... 1

By KERRI PYLE

THE virus that sweeps sporadically through modern football returned with renewed and deadly vigour to Merseyside. Mysterious and malevolent, it descended on Goodison Park to leave sane men shaken and a half-decent match irreversibly scarred.

The symptoms are many and varied, but two groups appear especially susceptible: intelligent, well-paid players who feel compelled to disengage their brains somewhere between the dressing-room and the pitch and visionary managers who can detect the tactical nuances of a game from 5,000 paces but who are unable to see one player kicking lumps out of another 30 feet away.

The first victim of this disease on Saturday was Dan Petrescu, Chelsea's cultured defender from Romania. Eleven minutes before half-time, with his side ahead and sucking the life out of Everton thanks to a six-man midfield and an improving, impressive, possession game, Petrescu was clearly held back by Linpar after being caught in

possession on the edge of the Chelsea area. There was, though, neither flag nor whistle.

Petrescu, albeit incensed, had two sensible options: pursue Linpar into the area to try to get in a saving tackle, or leave the situation to his fellow defenders. But no, the virus had hold of him as surely as he was going to have hold of Linpar. Down went the Swede, and in went Unsworth's penalty, emphatically, to negate the lead that Spencer had given Chelsea.

Petrescu's act was reckless, but lunacy was to follow, for Mark Hughes was displaying all the tell-tale signs. Booked in each of his previous four matches, and one caution away from an automatic suspension, he hastened to his fate. An early kicking match with Ablett was followed by a running feud with Unsworth that provoked, in the 57th minute, an unequivocal "thru-you-last-chance" from Robbie Hart, the referee. The warning was ignored. In the 59th, another foul brought the inevitable caution, for persistent misconduct.

Hart's ink was hardly dry when Hughes and Unsworth tangled again, and this time, as the Everton defender fell, Hughes brought his right boot

down on his rival's back. Not savagely, not slyly — Hart was maybe ten yards away — but clearly and petulantly. Ludicrously. Hughes departed, mission accomplished. His punishment, probably a five-match ban, awaits.

Glen Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, saw things a bit differently, to the extent that Hughes was victim, not villain. Hughes had protested his innocence, and that was good enough for Hoddle, who lamented not the ill-discipline of his players but "the way the game is going".

It was this conclusion that had forced him to withdraw Wise, his captain, and one of five others cautioned, to prevent him following Hughes down the tunnel. Another victim, Hoddle said, of "the way the game is going".

A cure for this malaise surely includes ensuring that all players who make themselves unavailable for work through their own foolishness are not paid for the duration. And how about free eye tests for managers?

EVERTON (4-2-2): N. Southall — C. Short, G. Abbott, D. Unsworth — A. Kanchelskis, B. Home, J. Barmby, A. Hinchcliffe (sub: D. Anderson, S. Mowatt) — G. Stewart, P. Ricketts.  
CHELSEA (4-4-2): K. Hodgecock — M. Duberry, D. Lee, A. Wemy — D. Petrescu, D. Wicks (sub: P. Furlong, B. J. Guller, J. Spencer, E. Newton, T. Pottler) — M. Hughes, R. Hart.

## Astute Burns gains the dividend

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

THE sterner sort of politician will speak wittingly of those who believe difficulties may be overcome by "throwing money at the problem". If the 2-1 victory for Celtic at Pittodrie yesterday is anything to go by, however, cash may be the best form of ammunition, in football matches at least. Aberdeen led at the interval, and the reversal of fortune that followed cost... well, fortunes.

The four most expensive members of the visitors' team engineered the victory in the opening ten minutes of the second half. First, Andreas Thom (£2.2 million) sent Phil O'Donnell (£1.75 million) galloping away on the right and his cross was turned in at the far post by John Collins (a measly £1 million) for the equaliser.

Celtic's winner also reeked of affluence as Thom sprinted past Inglis and teased a cross back from the byline for Pierre van Hooijdonk (£1.25 million) to slam home a left-footed shot. With this result, Celtic move to just five points behind Rangers, the leaders of the Scottish League premier division, and have a game in hand.

While it was possible, at Pittodrie at least, to argue that Celtic's credentials as challengers for the title are compromised by a set of price tags, the wealth has been given potency by the shrewdness of the man

who has spent it. Tommy Burns, the club's manager, may well be unique in football at present. Most people in his profession are tormented by at least one of their signings. At Celtic, for instance, Liam Brady produced a stylish team, but was always scrambling to recover the credibility lost with Tony Cascarino, his first purchase for the club. Burns, on the other hand, has bought flawlessly.

For a long time, there were rebukes over the acquisition of O'Donnell from Motherwell in September 1994. The £1.75 million fee was high, especially for a player whose fitness was in question even then. Indeed, it is only now, after a hernia operation and numerous injuries, that O'Donnell has recovered the robustness of his youth.

For much of his period with Celtic, he has taken the field while lacking the stamina on which his game depends. In

such circumstances, confidence also dwindles, and he looked forlorn at times when a body he had always trusted to take him surging away from opponents seemed to have become a handicap.

These days, though, Burns feels free to describe him as "the best midfielder of his type in Scotland, if not Britain". While others in the Celtic side specialise in crafted passes, it is the ceaseless, intelligent running of O'Donnell that provides the direction.

The expertise of Celtic, though, does not depend solely on the writing of mighty cheques. At full-time yesterday, the most extravagant celebrations were those of Tosh McKinlay, the left back, who may also have been rejoicing in the unlikely turn of events that brings him a part in such occasions.

Last season, he was operating on month-to-month contracts with Heart of Midlothian and there seemed to be no bidders for his services until Burns, to widespread surprise, spent £350,000 on him. Even the manager thought that he was buying only a useful squad player, but McKinlay, 31, has since gone on to become an international.

Celtic's performance, yesterday, was fragmented, but some of the pieces were genuine. One of O'Donnell's breaks into the penalty area

early in the match saw him hit the post, but Celtic's panache was suppressed for a spell after Aberdeen had taken the lead after 18 minutes. Gordon Marshall, the visitors' goalkeeper, dithered when he should have cleared and then missed the corner kick that his defence had been forced to concede. Billy Dodds was left to head into the net.

At that moment, Rangers supporters, whose team had beaten Raith Rovers 4-0 on Saturday, may have had the old and welcome feeling that their rivals were bound for insignificance yet again. In the second half at Pittodrie, though, Celtic's sense of purpose reasserted itself.

Burns may, nonetheless, have been anxious in the closing stages of a game extended by the injury time required by the treatment given to the referee when he was struck by a coin thrown from the midst of the Aberdeen support. There might even have been an equaliser, but a 25-yard shot from Stewart McKimmie came back off the crossbar.

In their best passages, however, Celtic were capable of the greater accomplishment and, for the first season since 1987-88, have won both of their league fixtures at Pittodrie. These days, Burns's team possesses the will and the means to maintain the struggle with Rangers.

## The young ones of Charlton reap rich reward

Birmingham City ..... 3  
Charlton Athletic ..... 4

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

CONCEDING a penalty against Birmingham City after 25 seconds, and subsequently going 1-0 down, is not the ideal way to start a match at St Andrew's. Yet Charlton Athletic, average age 23 and collectively worth only £275,000, have old heads on young shoulders. They absorbed the blow calmly, recaptured their senses and moved smoothly into second place in the Endleigh Insurance League first division yesterday.

It had looked so bleak. With few of the players having touched the ball, Humphrey accidentally ankle-tapped Donawa as he cut into the Charlton area and Hunt drilled in the penalty. Birmingham's 39th game of an increasingly arduous season had opened in promising, yet ultimately deceptive, fashion.

By half-time, Charlton were 3-1 ahead and cruising. Their more perceptive passing, with Mortimer and Bowyer to the fore, always had the edge on Birmingham's direct and abrasive approach.

The eighteen-minute equaliser, admittedly, was fortunate. Leaburn glanced on Balmes' free kick and the ball bounced off a post and struck Edwards before crossing the line. However, the second and third goals owed everything to skill and composure. Grant gliding past Daish and then beating Sansome, and Robinson tucking away a first-time shot from Bowyer's cross.

"We were left a bit stunned by that early goal, but we quickly got over it," Alan Curbsley, the Charlton manager, said. "A few of the lads grew up out there. We can play better, but the result was really important for us."

Leaburn lunged forward to head in Charlton's fourth, after 70 minutes, prompting many Birmingham supporters to head for the exits. Pity. They missed an engrossing comeback, with Edwards and Forsyth giving belated hope to an apparently lost cause with nicely-executed late efforts. A victory, though, and deservedly so, for the young ones.

BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-4-2): P. Sansome — G. Proke, A. Edwards, L. Daish, J. Grant (sub: G. Cooper, 45min) — J. Hunt (sub: J. Bowen, 85), R. Forsyth, D. Proke, L. Donawa — G. St. S. Campbell (sub: R. Francis, 45).  
CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): M. Salmon — J. Humphrey, R. Bales, S. Balmes, J. Stuart — S. Newton, L. Bowyer, P. Mortimer, J. Robinson — K. Grant (sub: G. Nelson 77), C. Leaburn.  
Referee: P. Richards.

## Megson relishes his moment

Sunderland ..... 0  
Norwich City ..... 1

By LOUISE TAYLOR

GARY MEGSON could not stop smiling during the post-match press conference at Roker Park yesterday — and no wonder. Norwich City had finally won a game under his management.

During five matches as the club's caretaker-manager last spring, Megson failed to pre-side over a victory as his side were relegated from the FA Carling Premiership. Similarly, the six fixtures that followed his full-time appointment in succession to Martin O'Neill all ended in disappointment, a worrying run that finally ended on Weirside.

Yet there were mysteries lurking behind Megson's satisfaction yesterday. Where was the adrenalin that will surely fuel Sunderland's challenge to Manchester United in their FA Cup third-round replay tomorrow night? It was surely missing yesterday. And how did Molby transport his considerable bulk through Norwich's midfield?

On loan from Liverpool, Molby is inexcusably overweight, yet, though his shirt spent the afternoon hanging significantly outside his shorts, he remains a sublime passer of a ball, capable of silencing any terrace taunts about his size. He did exactly that when his eleven-minute dispatch picked out Ward, who duly put Norwich ahead. It was enough to put a smile on Megson's face — the first of many on a memorable day.

SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): A. Chomarov, D. Rutherford, L. Hovory, B. Mann, A. Melville, R. O'Neil — D. Scott, P. Baines, S. Agnew, M. Gay, D. Kelly (sub: N. Smith, 59), P. Gray, C. Russell.  
NORWICH (4-4-2): B. Gunn, C. Boddie, J. Pollock, S. Proke, M. Bowyer, D. Eadie, J. Molby, N. Adams, K. O'Neill (sub: R. Mead, 57), R. Peck (sub: K. Scott, 78), A. Ward.  
Referee: G. Carr.







## Wharton's win falls below title standard

By Sri Kumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

HENRY WHARTON, the European super-middleweight champion, from York, stayed on course for a third attempt at a world championship, but his performance against Vincenzo Nardiello, of Italy, on Saturday at Halifax did not convince his supporters that he could lift such a title.

Wharton was on the floor for the first time in his 13-year career and, by the time that the bout was stopped, in the sixth round, because Nardiello had a badly-cut right eye, he was trailing by three points, having lost the first three rounds, won one and drawn one. Even though the bout was just beginning to turn Wharton's way, the Italian's boxing was so much better than another punch to put Wharton on the floor again was not out of the question.

Wharton's supporters were relieved when the referee called over the doctor to look at the cut and the bout was

Results ..... 30

stopped, but they were sport enough to say about their man: "He was lucky."

Wharton, too, was honest enough to say that he boxed badly but believed that his blows were beginning to have their effect and that he would have won in the end. He was probably right. By the fourth round, Nardiello was starting to complain about "infringements" by Wharton. Nardiello even went down on a non-existent punch at the bell for the end of the fifth round, but was told by the referee to get up and go back to his corner.

Wharton said: "I wasn't doing any work. I was just getting caught. I could see the shots coming, but could not get out of the way. It was stupid. If I could give myself a slap without hurting myself, I would. I think I was looking for the big punch. I need a rest."

Micky Duff, Wharton's manager, said that it was a "worrying performance", but

one that showed fighting qualities. "He ran into a bad patch, stood up to it well, grunted his teeth and fought back," Duff said. "There was no panic in the corner when Henry went down. It wasn't as if he didn't know where he was. I knew he would get to him [Nardiello] in the end, given time."

Duff put Wharton's showing down to the fact that Nardiello was a late substitute and Wharton, who had been training to defend against Frederic Scillier, of France, had just four days to prepare for a southpaw.

Certainly, for three rounds, Wharton was not able to get past the extended right hand to land a solid punch. Nardiello simply kept moving round the ring, quickly picking Wharton off with the right and following through with some solid lefts that brought up a lump under Wharton's right eye as early as the first.

In the second round, Nardiello's eye was cut, but he was still up on his toes and enjoying giving Wharton a boxing lesson. In the third, as Wharton lunged desperately to catch up with Nardiello, the Italian dropped a perfectly-timed left onto the Englishman's chin and, to everyone's surprise, Wharton, who had stood up to Nigel Benn and Chris Eubank for 12 rounds, went down. He got up at three and had recovered fully by the time that the mandatory count was over.

By the fourth, Nardiello's cut had become a gash and he had begun to slow down enough to let Wharton back into the bout. By the fifth, Wharton had stopped the one-way traffic and was beginning to take charge unsteadily. Wharton will have a rest now and will probably box again in May, against Scillier, and, if he gets past the tough Frenchman, he will become the mandatory challenger for the World Boxing Council title, held by Nigel Benn, whom he hopes to meet in the autumn. Wharton intends to go to Las Vegas to support Frank Bruno against Mike Tyson on March 16 and will start training on his return.

## Ainslie aims for plain sailing in Savannah

Edward Gorman charts the upward course of a young British Olympic contender



It is hard to believe that Ben Ainslie is just 18 — apart, that is, from his refreshing enthusiasm and his shy disposition. His sailing CV reads more like that of a hardened competitor of 30 towards the end of his best years in small boats.

As Sue, his proud mother, suggested, there may never have been an 18-year-old in Great Britain who has participated in nine world championship series.

That is the least of it, though. Ainslie — recently named BT-YJA young sailor of the year — will be the youngest sailor to have represented Britain in the Olympic Games and one of the youngest British Olympians in any sport.

He is the world youth champion in the Laser class — Lasers are highly manoeuvrable 13ft 10in single-sail dinghies — in which he will compete in Savannah in July. He was world champion twice in the less powerful Laser Radials and also British youth champion. Late last year, he won an Olympic trial at Weymouth, beating off strong challenges from Hugh Stiles and Mark Littlejohn to book his place as the sole British representative in the Laser class in Savannah.

Today, his challenge for gold begins as he joins the Great Britain team for the pre-Olympic regatta in Miami from January 24 to 28. Like his more experienced team-mates, Ainslie will use Miami as a chance to test his racing skills against many of the sailors whom he will meet in July.

When Ainslie first thought of having a tilt at the Olympic Games, early last year, some advised him to aim at 2000 and miss Savannah. However, his performance on the water dictated otherwise and he is now seen by his Olympic coaches as a serious medal prospect.

Rod Carr, the team manager, has no doubts. "I would say he's the most determined youth sailor I've seen in nearly 20 years," he said. "He's the most talented sailor of his generation and, without a doubt, the most promising young Laser sailor in the world."

Like everyone else, Carr is impressed with Ainslie's quiet determination and enthusiasm for the job in hand, presenting him with none of the off-the-water problems that older competitors have. "I don't have the staleness issues with Ben," he said.

However, Ainslie's youth also means inexperience when coming up against the likes of Robert Scheidt, the world champion, from Brazil, and winner of the pre-Olympic series last year. At 23, he has five more years' experience than Ainslie to call on.

The test is, he is capable of beating the more experienced sailors in the Olympics," Carr said. "He has a history of rising to the occasion and the Olympics is a pretty big occasion to rise to. As long as he keeps his head together and doesn't get overawed by the whole thing, he'll be in the frame."

Ainslie's sailing career began in 1985, ironically after his parents' 40-foot yawl was wrecked in the Helford River during a British sailing holiday in Cornwall. Local publicity about the loss of the boat led to an invitation for him to join Restronger Sailing Club on the Fal estuary, where he started off in Optimists, the classic children's starter dinghies.

His parents then moved to Cornwall from Cheshire and, having started in the Parrots (beginners' class) — Ben quickly skipped the intermediate Barracudas and was soon in the top group, known as the Aces.

At his first nationals championships, in 1988, he finished 41st, but was fast enough on that performance to win the under-12 junior national title. The world championships in the Optimists class followed, his last challenge being in Argentina in 1992 when he was 31st, before he graduated to Laser Radials and the results started to improve dramatically.

He won the national and European youth titles in that class in 1992 and the next year captured the world championship in New Zealand. His parents played a vital role, giving him their full backing all the way, including approving his decision last year to abandon his A levels and



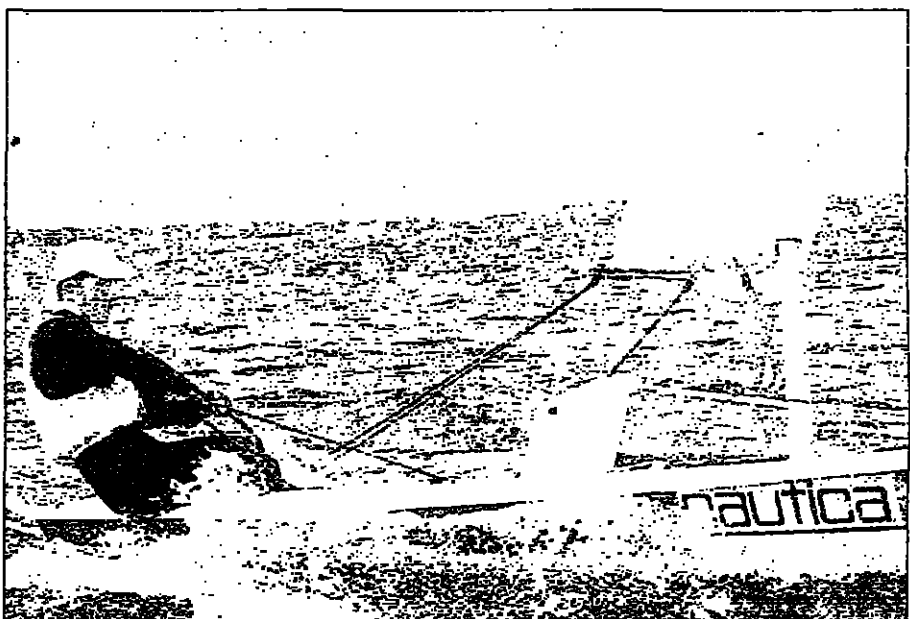
Ainslie, 18, will be the youngest sailor to represent Britain in the Olympic Games in July. Photographs: Peter Bentley

concentrate on his Olympic bid.

Sue and Roddy Ainslie will themselves move to Savannah in April and remain there until the Games, to provide their son with a stable base in the run-up to the competition. His mother is surprised by the extent of her son's dedication.

"He takes it all terribly seriously," she said. "He never goes out and buys a McDonald's and things that he loves, and hardly ever drinks alcohol. He's absolutely dedicated from the moment he gets up to the moment he goes to bed. He's single-minded, but that's the way you have to be."

That single-mindedness displays itself in his thirst for success. "My goal is to win a gold medal," Ainslie said. "If not gold, then any medal would do."



Ainslie in action during the world youth championships in Bermuda last year

## Colchester licensed to thrill

WHEN the FA Cup spotlight is switched off, it seems that the lower reaches of the Endleigh Insurance League are out of sight, out of mind, to many spectators. On Saturday, for example, with Ipswich Town, Norwich City and Southend United not playing at home, only 3,252 saw Colchester United consolidate their position among the third division play-off places with a 3-2 victory, but those who stayed away missed a treat.

It was high entertainment that encompassed a number of football's favourite clichés: "end-to-end stuff", "a game of two halves", and even "you must be joking, ref".

Steven Bennett's extravaganza in handing out yellow cards meant an early departure for Sean Devine, of Barnet, the game's outstanding attacker, who received two, both for innocuous-looking offences. The referee's award of a penalty to Colchester in the sixth minute, Abrahams taking a theatrical tumble and Bens scoring, also appeared to inspire Colchester.

After 11 minutes, Pardew

Nick Szczepanik is impressed with a 3-2 scoreline at Layer Road

misjudged a long clearance and Abrahams unleashed a dipping volley from just inside the area that flew into the top far corner. The scorer followed that, six minutes later, with a low shot past Taylor after a neat move had put him clear.

However, if Colchester thought that they had the match won, Barnet had other ideas. The exotically-named Linvoy Primus ignited a comeback, volleying Cooper's header beyond Emberson's reach, and then Cooper himself headed home a rebound after his own volley had hit the Colchester crossbar. Barnet were twice denied an equaliser, first when Hodges shot from 20 yards was inadvertently blocked by a colleague, then, seconds later, when McCarthy intercepted the same player's goalbound shot.

After such an energetic first half, it was hardly surprising

that the second period fell a little flat, but both sides still enjoyed their share of chances.

"The type of football you see when you come and watch Barnet," Ray Clemente, their manager, said, describing his side's opening 15 minutes as "kamikaze defending."

"It's difficult at this level to score three or four goals and not concede any," Steve Wignall, the Colchester manager, said. "Fine, we must entertain people, but it's heart-attack time for a manager. It could have been 3-3 or 4-4; and last week we were called too defensive!"

Perhaps then, more lovers of attacking football should pay Colchester a visit. "I think so," Wignall said. "It's one of the cheapest entries in the league, and very few games here have been dull. Goals are flying in — at both ends."

COLCHESTER UNITED (4-2-2): C Greenway — D Green, T McGarvey, P Cawley, S Bens — C Fry, A Locke (sub: T Davies, 45min), M Kinsella, D Gregory — P Abrahams (sub: K Duguid, 81), M Greenwood. BARNET (3-5-2): M Taylor — L Primus, A Pardew, D McGee, S Gao, P Williams, P Scott, L Hodges, G Thomas (sub: D Mills, 76) — S Devine, M Cooper. Referee: S Bennett

## Yusuf triumphant after uphill struggle

By John Goodbody

IN THE 23 years of the annual Knole Run, there can have been few more unexpectedly dramatic races on the wooded hills behind Sevenoaks School in Kent than the one run on Saturday.

With 37 boys' teams entering, this is as fiercely competitive a cross-country event as one can find in the independent schools' calendar. However, there was a clear pre-race favourite in Yacin Yusuf, the winner last year in a time that equalled the record for a course that wheels past the celebrated 15th century house, with its memories of the Bloomsbury Set.

Yusuf, from Trinity, Croydon, was second in the English Schools 1,500 metres last year, but excels particularly at cross-country, "floating" up slopes with his smooth stride. That is usually what occurs.

Yusuf, 18, who hopes to represent Great Britain in the world junior cross-country championship in South Africa in March, has recently had trouble with a strained knee,

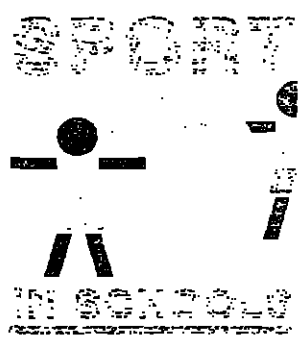
but was so dominant last year that he was still expected to win without difficulty.

However, this handicap was compounded by a stomach upset during sections of the 5.92-mile course. He said: "I should have relaxed going uphill. Instead, I tried to push it and started feeling bad."

Twice, his pursuers, Oliver Laws, of Shrewsbury, the 1995 inter-counties under-15 champion, and Ed Matthews, of Winchester, third last year, passed him, Kieron Cooper, the master-in-charge at Trinity, was agitated.

Yusuf said: "He has done so much for us all. He was really panicking. I looked at his face, and he was so disappointed that I thought of him and all the training we had done. I just had to get up."

He sprinted past the pair twice to regain the lead. Yusuf eventually finished ten seconds clear of Laws, but immediately slumped to the ground, feeling the effects of his stomach upset. His time, 16min 39sec slower than in 1995, showed how much the illness had affected him.



Laws, 15, is already showing impressive promise. Bob Parker, the master-in-charge at Shrewsbury, said: "He has certainly got a racing brain."

Schools results ..... 30

He gets into the right place at the right time.

Shrewsbury is probably the birthplace of organised cross-country. There are written records going back to 1832, with weekly runs and immense ceremony.

A "huntsman" would appear dressed in a black cap

with scarlet jersey and stockings. The Gentlemen of the Run would follow the first division of the pack, running outwards and carrying bludgeons to ward off the locals, who delighted in throwing stones at the boys. They would be pursued by the second division, clad in mortar boards and gowns.

The tradition may have died, but the excellence has continued. However, even Shrewsbury could finish only second to Winchester on Saturday. They easily took the team event, being led home by Matthews, who is captain of football but still enchanted by the demands of athletics.

He said: "The races are a real killer, but the satisfaction at the end is tremendous. It is all up to you, real 'door-die' stuff."

Perhaps Iain Sproat, the Minister for Sport, who proclaims the superiority of team games to activities demanding self-reliance and individual athleticism, might learn something when he next visits his old college.

Winchester have benefited

from the training schedules of Bruce Tulloh, the 1962 European 5,000 metres champion, and the preparation of Colin Upton and John Brooks, their two masters-in-charge.

Upton said: "I am Mr Nice Guy, while John really puts the boys through it. Even his easy runs are notorious."

For the first time, there was a girls' race over two miles, and Stamford High, who have always been highly-placed in the boys' race in recent years, were the inaugural winners, supplying the first two runners home.

Victorious was Harriet Thompson, 17, who was second in the 1995 UK tetraathlon (running, swimming, riding and shooting) championships and is an outstanding rider with the Pony Club. She finished ten seconds clear of Katie Turner.

Thompson, who is hoping to read veterinary medicine at Cambridge, said of her training: "I run better when I am studying hard. It probably makes a good contrast to the work ... and it helps relax me."

## Cornish spirit wins the day

AFC Lymington ..... 1  
Torpoint Athletic ..... 3

By Walter Gamble

TORPOINT Athletic, the Jewson South Western League club from Cornwall, reached the last 16 of the FA Carlsberg Vase for the first time with a hard-won triumph on the muddy acre upon which AFC Lymington have been ruling the roost in the Jewson Wessex League.

Lymington had won 20 matches in a row since losing at Christchurch on October 4, which served only to heighten the explosion of joy among the black-and-gold clad visiting contingent at the final whistle.

The home side had taken a gamble by playing Darren Piner, 31 goals in 31 matches, who had injured a hamstring on New Year's Day. In the opening ten minutes, he had

the chances to put Lymington ahead, but the goal machine spluttered alarmingly.

To make matters worse, Lymington gifted Torpoint a goal after 19 minutes, Mark Adams slicing the ball into his own net after Penhaligon had been unable to gather a cross by Cansfield.

Furious attacking by Lymington, committed defending by Torpoint, chasing, tackling and covering with a will, became the pattern. When a slick move, Ross converting Andy Knighton's cross, brought them level after an hour, Lymington might have expected to steam on to yet another victory.

They reckoned without Cornish spirit. Northcott, the Torpoint captain, got his men going forward again and, when his pass split the Lymington defence, Nardiello, professional footballer turned Newton Abbot policeman,

unselfishly crossed for Cansfield to slide in a second.

An injury-time howler by Penhaligon, a Cornishman who started with Plymouth Argyle, who cleared only on to the shins of Cansfield, five yards away, allowed the busy striker to round off Torpoint's day with a flourish.

Peter Thesiger, the vice-chairman said: "When the draw for the last 32 was made, Torpoint was the name everybody wanted. Now we're on the map. It's a tremendous competition for small clubs."

His players' reward? "They're on a bonus. Chicken and chips on the way home," Thesiger said.

AFC LYMINGTON (4-2-2): G Penhaligon — M Adams (sub: J Harvey, 81min), G Morris, K Green, D Knighton — A Knighton, R Coad (sub: P Pinder, 46), D Adams, P Morris — D Piner (sub: G Davies, 46), D Ross. TORPOINT ATHLETIC (4-2-3): A Garmann — S Crampton, S Williams, W Hillson, M Garmann — R Daley (sub: C Kelly, 87), A Coad — D Northcott, M Coadwell — G Nardiello (sub: M Heath, 83), L Cansfield. Referee: B Baker

## Towers leave it late to rise to the challenge

IT TOOK London Towers 20 years to capture their first significant honour, but it is possible that Kevin Cadle's basketball squad will add at least one more item of silverware to the 7-Up Trophy before this season is out (Nicholas Harling writes).

Cadle and his players will be far from satisfied with the dramatic 90-84 success over Worthing Bears in Birmingham on Saturday. As Budweiser League leaders, they will expect to withstand the challenges of Sheffield Sharks and The Leopards. Also, there is a comfortable-looking National Cup quarter-final in prospect at Thames Valley Tigers on Wednesday. After that, the play-offs at Wembley Arena will surely beckon.

However, when, with little more than five minutes of the

first half left, Worthing led 43-28, there looked likely to be only one winner. "I never gave up hope," Cadle admitted, "but it took a whole lot of ranting from me at half-time to change things around."

The sheer perseverance of Roger Duhaney, London's unsung captain, finally subdued Colin Irish, the Worthing player-coach, who had three of his side's seven three-pointers in his name at the break. He added only four more points to his half-time tally of 19.

The points scored by Steve Bucknall and rebounds grabbed by Martin Henlan had kept London in contention, but, in the latter stages, Tony Windless and Danny Lewis, their Americans, took over. Windless deservedly won the most valuable player award.

## Tomba succumbs to Sykora

BATTLING performances by Thomas Sykora and Gunther Mader, the home favourites, plunged the Austrian skiing resort of Kitzbühel into a double celebration at the weekend. Sykora held off the challenge of Alberto Tomba, of Italy, to win the slalom and Mader triumphed in the combined event to claim his thirteenth World Cup victory.

In winning the downhill on Saturday, Mader became only the fourth skier to record victories in all four Alpine disciplines. Austrian joy was further enhanced by Hans Knaus, who came second, ahead of Bruno Kernen, of Switzerland.

Sykora, too, broke new ground, claiming his first World Cup success. Urged on by thousands of his compatriots, he recorded a two-run time of 1min 34.24sec. Tomba, who had been seeking his fourth consecutive slalom vic-

tory, was handicapped by a knee injury and finished second, 0.06sec behind Sykora.

Jure Kosir, of Slovenia, considered one of the best technical skiers on the circuit, but with only one win to reflect his promise, continued to be frustrated and finished third.

Lasse Kjus, of Norway, who leads the overall World Cup standings, missed the races at Kitzbühel after sustaining injuries in a crash during training for the downhill. However, Kjus, who celebrated his 25th birthday yesterday, remained at the top of the standings with 956 points, ahead of Tomba, who has 616.

Elfi Eder, of Austria, the leading women's World Cup slalom rankings, failed to underline her country's superiority in Garmisch, Germany, when she came in behind Urska Hrovat, of Slovenia, in the slalom. Hrovat, who had come second in two

World Cup slaloms this season, skied the two legs of the Gudiberg slalom in 1min 19.83sec to finish 0.18sec ahead of Eder.

Again, though, the home crowd had plenty to cheer, as Martina Ertl, of Germany, followed her second place in the super-giant slalom on Saturday with fourth place in the slalom, bolstering her lead over Anita Wachter, of Austria, in the overall World Cup standings. Wachter, the 1993 World Cup winner, followed her fifth place in the slalom at Maribor last week with a respectable seventh in Garmisch.

Another home-grown winner, Kanja Seizinger in the super-giant slalom, failed to add significantly to her World Cup points total when she finished 27th in the slalom. She stays third overall.

Results, page 30







# Kate Edgley gets hooked on Ultimate, the sport that is a cross between American football and netball



Exhilarating and dynamic, men players have the advantage of speed and height

## A great game for show-offs and no referee

First things first. Kristine Bajer, Canterbury College lecturer, wanted a name for the new Ultimate team that she was setting up: Bob Mamook's Chicken Warriors, Wile E and Friends and The Tip Top Hillbillies were just some of the suggestions on offer.

Ultimate — often wrongly called by the trade name Frisbee — has its origins in the 1960s and team names are just one of the tell-tale signs. The game was invented in 1968 by a group of Columbia High School students in New Jersey who wanted to create an "alternative" sport, which was athletic but not aggressive.

It is a simple, non-contact game with few rules, often described as a hybrid between American football and netball. Points are scored when any player catches the disc in the end zone. There is no referee, only a philosophy to abide by the spirit of the game. Decisions are made by consensus.

We did not come to a decision about the name. Everyone was too busy practising their backhands and sidearms (the forearm throw) from one end of Hartsdown Leisure Centre's gym in Margate to the other. I tentatively joined in and, thanks to Kris's guidance on how to hold the disc — placing of the thumb, forefinger and middle finger are vital — I managed not to make quite the fool of myself that I had feared.



When Kris rounded everyone up, a couple of the experienced players could not resist continuing with impressive demonstrations of hammer and knife throws. What looks like a casual but forceful overhead chuck is, in fact, an extremely skilful and accurate pass, executed with a final flick of the wrist.

The result, in the case of the hammer, is the disc sliding through the air upside down. With a release action resembling its literal equivalent, the knife throw spins the disc at 90 degrees to earth, sending it heavenward before it arches down to the target (a teammate) with breathtaking precision.

As the immodesty of the name suggests, Ultimate is a great game for show-offs. Its simplicity allows skills to be displayed to the full which kept me rapt at my introduc-

tion to the game — watching the British championships a week earlier.

Twenty-four teams had congregated at Radley College, Oxford, and the ease with which the country's best players controlled and manipulated the disc was awesome. Played outdoors, the seven team members must be extremely fit and fast not only to cover the 120-yard pitch but also to get free. Man-to-man marking is the most common defence. Self regulation did not mean showing obsequious generosity to the opposition, as I half expected, merely that a dispute was resolved by giving the disc back to the previous player.

The dress code — complete with long hair and bandannas — gave a strong whiff of hippydom at odds with traditional sporting culture. Yet this was sport at its most exhilarating and dynamic. Throws of 100 yards, vertical leaps and horizontal dives — or layouts — all kept my adrenaline flowing.

Glancing down the hill to the adjacent golf course, I caught sight of three figures pulling trolleys across the green and wondered how golf had become such a popular spectator sport.

I left the British championships with the bug. I had to have a go. Kris's fledgling team, playing five-a-side indoors, seemed a good starting point. We were divided into

three teams, and took turns to keep the bench warm. Being placed on the same side as the two tallest men turned out to be a blessing in disguise. I did not touch the disc for the first two points.

So it went on. I tore around the court, shaking off my marker, but most of the time to no avail. Realising that the spirit of the game did not equate to chivalry, I abandoned shrinking violet pretensions and started yelling for the disc. It worked: and, as long as I remembered the golden rule of catching the disc with two hands — they even do that at top level when possible — I was no liability. I kept my passes short and unambitious and only once sent a sidearm

pass back-handedly to the floor. My moments of glory came on two occasions when, miraculously, I found the disc sliding into my grip in the end zone.

As with most sports in which height and speed are fundamental, women are at a disadvantage, according to Liz Bourne, the British Ultimate Federation's (BUF) women's co-ordinator.

Only two women's teams exist at present — London-based Bliss and Twin Peaks from the Midlands — as most women players join mixed teams. Now, Bourne wants to encourage more and has begun women-only training ses-

sions around the country. In the latest issue of *Ultimate*, the sport's every-so-often magazine, Bourne writes: "It is generally accepted that women playing in women-only teams develop better skills and, most importantly, confidence. Even the more experienced women playing in this country find that, when playing with a mixed team, their skills are not used to their full potential."

When Bourne began playing Ultimate, six years ago, there were only a handful of other women players in the country, but now she believes that there are enough to form four or five more teams.

While Bourne is keen to break the mixed mould, Sam

Neilson, the BUF national director, wants to expand Ultimate beyond its traditional university base. He is battling to gain Sports Council recognition and funding for the game so that he can start a schools development programme.

"We want to open doors so that other people can play, particularly children," Neilson said. "It's a very good game for schools because it encourages responsibility on the sports field. In most sports, you can think that if the referee doesn't see something, it's OK. Not in Ultimate."

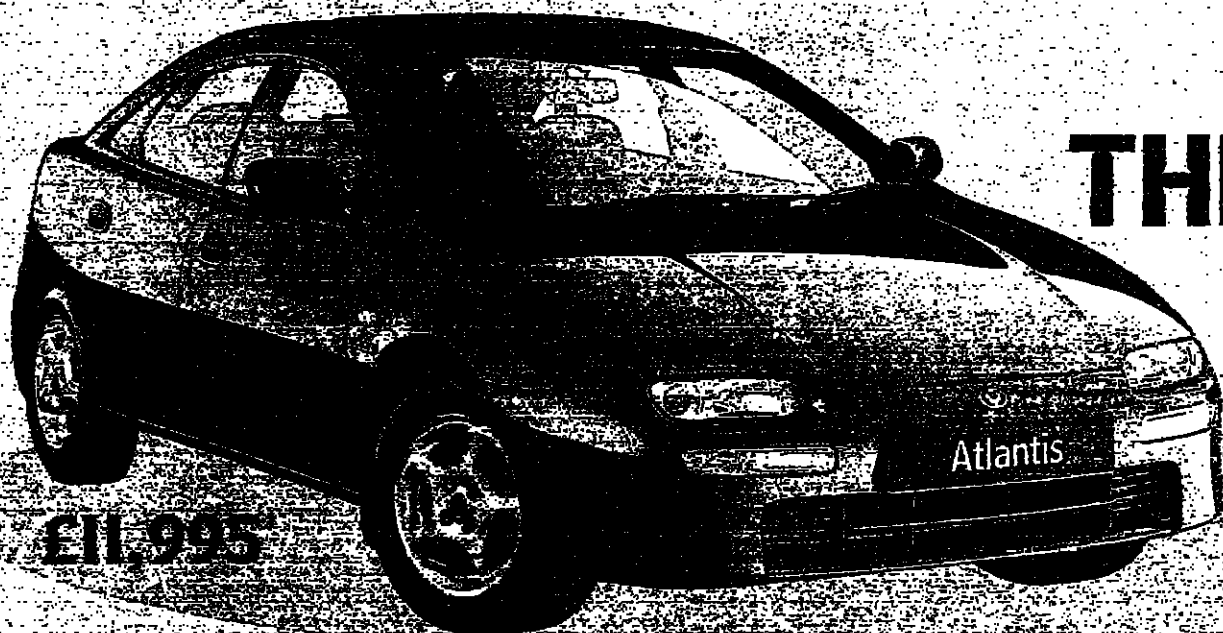
If you are fit and athletic, the chances are you would enjoy playing Ultimate, and once you have tried, the lure to learn to throw well is strong.



Women players in the 1995 World Cup championships at Street, Somerset: the aim is to encourage more women and schools to take up the game

### FACTBOX

For more information about Ultimate, contact: British Ultimate Federation, PO Box 1, Swan House, Leicester, LE9 5ZV; BUF national director Sam Neilson: 01926 364276; e-mail: serial@cs.warwick.ac.uk  
Ultimate is available from Paul Hurt 0181-684 2000, e-mail: althoh@madine.co.uk  
The five-a-side women's indoor British championships take place at Aston University in Birmingham on January 27 and 28. Women players from mixed teams will form most of the contestants, but new players are being invited to take part.



# THE MAZDA 323

## IS BETTER LOOKING THAN THE VW GOLF

(mazda) > (the rest)







# Budget concession under threat as deadline nears

## Tax debate divides bookmakers

By JULIAN MUSCAT

A SPLIT within the ranks of bookmakers has frustrated negotiations between the betting and racing industries, which are close to agreement over allocating £65 million in betting duty cuts set aside in the Budget.

The Treasury's deadline for completion of negotiations expires today but smaller bookmakers remain vehemently opposed to any payment to racing. The Chancellor announced in November that both industries should benefit from the 1 per cent reduction in betting duty. His intentions have since been reinforced by Treasury ministers, who have



Martin's Lamp leads the winner, Big Matt, over the last in the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot

**Richard Evans**  
Nap: FRONTAGER (1.25 Sedgfield)  
Next best: Rumi (1.25 Sedgfield)

demonstrated that funds are available over and above a reduction in punters' betting tax from 10 to 9 per cent. But while the "big three" betting concerns - Ladbrokes, William Hill and Coral - have agreed in principle to increase their contributions to racing, the owners of some 1,500 betting shops, under the aegis of the British Betting Office Association (BBOA), maintain they cannot afford to pay. Their stance threatens the £65 million rebate offered by the Chancellor, who indicated the package was dependent on the racing and betting industries reaching accord.

On the negotiating table is an offer from the "big three" to pay an additional levy of 0.15 per cent on horse racing turnover. That would generate an extra £4.5 million, although

the British Horseracing Board (BHB) is believed to have argued for at least double that sum. One suggested avenue towards a settlement is for betting shops with high turnover to bear an increased burden.

Ironically, the Treasury's insistence on prompt settle-

ments of the Levy Scheme, which governs bookmakers' annual contributions to the sport, has hampered efforts to break the impasse. The 1996-97 scheme has already been cast in stone. Agreement on additional bookmakers' contributions would have to be voluntary until they can be

enshrined in the scheme commencing in April 1997. Tristram Ricketts, chief executive of the BHB, said yesterday that negotiations would go right down to the wire. "I'm certainly hopeful we can meet the deadline. The complexities involved are quite considerable but we

have gone far enough down the road to make agreement possible," he said.

The closeness of the call typifies all financial negotiations between the two sides bound by an urgent need for accord. Today's deadline is not absolute; it was set by Treasury officials to coincide with the second reading of the Finance Bill in the House of Commons.

But failure to reach a consensus runs the risk of alienating a government that has proved receptive to the negative impact on betting turnover of the National Lottery and scratch cards. Some £3 million has been cut from racing's budget for 1996. The two sides will incur the wrath of all with a stake in the sport unless the Chancellor's tax cut starts filtering through to racing's coffers on March 1.

The Victor Chandler Handicap Chase at Ascot on Saturday led to the late success of Big Matt, who collared Martin's Lamp after the final fence to break a frustrating sequence for his trainer, Nicky Henderson. "Everything was going well before the freeze but we had our share of second places since then," Henderson said. "You need the breaks to win the big races and it wasn't us who made the [jumping] mistakes this time."

Big Matt, who was off the bridle from flagfall on Saturday, found the two-mile trip on the short side. "His optimum distance is around 2½ miles," the trainer said. "But I'll enter him for the Racing Post Chase over three miles and make a decision nearer the time."

Peter Easterby became the first modern-day trainer to saddle 1,000 winners under both codes when Dally Boy justified favouritism in the Teal Juvenile Novices' Hurdle at Newcastle on Saturday.

# Irish gather team for Cheltenham

FROM RICHARD EVANS AT LEOPARDSTOWN

THE Irish countdown to Cheltenham is under way in earnest after a host of Festival pointers were provided here on Saturday in an enthralling day's racing.

Dance Beat, the fairytale winner of The Ladbrokes Handicap Hurdle, is the starting point for what could be another bumper Irish haul at Cheltenham in March, to match that of the past couple of years.

A half-sister to Galmoy, who won a brace of Stayers' Hurdles at Cheltenham, she was bought for just 1,300 guineas as a yearling by Johnny Harrington, and is trained by his wife, Jessica. Dance Beat's gutsy victory, under a fine ride from Anthony Powell, has earned her a crack at the Supreme Novices' Hurdle, although readers of the Irish form book were quick to point out how her Ladbrokes success underlined the chances of That's My Man, trained by Aidan O'Brien.

At Fairyhouse last month, the O'Brien novice gave 12lb and a 21-length thrashing to Dance Beat, and is already being talked of in terms of "banker" Festival material. The quality and strength in depth of the novice hurdlers in Ireland was further underlined in the opening Fitzpatrick Castle Hurdle - which was run in a time a second faster than The Ladbrokes.

Imperial Call did particularly well to win the McCain Handicap Chase over two miles as his principal target is the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown and, possibly, the Cheltenham Gold Cup. However, the horse that caught the eye was Strong Platinum, who was giving 12lb to the winner and racing on unfavourable heavy ground. Travelling strongly throughout and jumping magnificently, he was only 1½ lengths adrift at the line without having been given an unduly hard time.

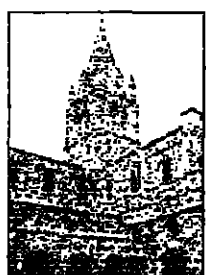
On good going the eight-year-old will be seen to even better effect, and given such ideal ground conditions it is difficult seeing British two-mile chasers thwarting the dual challenge posed by Sound Man and Strong Platinum in the Queen Mother Champion Chase.

Treble Bob is any owner's dream. The winner of six Flat races on the bounce, his only defeat over hurdles came at Cheltenham last March when he was third in the Sun Alliance Hurdle. On his first attempt over fences in the Fitzpatrick Hotel Group Novices' Chase, he had too much finishing speed for Minella Duno, Dermot Weld is now leaning towards the Sun Alliance Chase as opposed to the Stayers' Hurdle for him.

Ladbrokes result

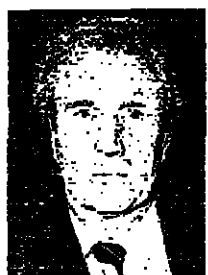
2.20 (2m) 1. Dance Beat (A. Powell, 12-1), 2. Fairy Way (6-1), 3. Denmore (6-1), 4. Squire (8-1), 5. 22-22 Mr. Crossland (11-1), 1st Mr. Harrington (11-1), 2nd Mr. Harrington (11-1), 3rd Mr. Harrington (11-1), 4th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 5th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 6th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 7th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 8th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 9th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 10th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 11th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 12th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 13th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 14th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 15th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 16th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 17th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 18th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 19th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 20th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 21st Mr. Harrington (11-1), 22nd Mr. Harrington (11-1), 23rd Mr. Harrington (11-1), 24th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 25th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 26th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 27th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 28th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 29th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 30th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 31st Mr. Harrington (11-1), 32nd Mr. Harrington (11-1), 33rd Mr. Harrington (11-1), 34th Mr. Harrington (11-1), 35th Mr. 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ARTS  
THE WEEK  
AHEAD

## ■ VISUAL ART

In Oxford, sculptor Richard Wentworth is given the run of the Christ Church Picture Gallery  
OPEN: Now  
REVIEW: Tomorrow



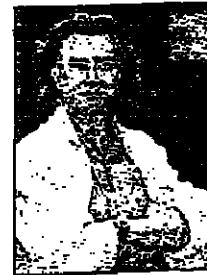
## ■ MUSIC

Sir Colin Davis launches his LSO Bruckner and Mozart series at the Barbican  
OPENS: Tomorrow  
REVIEW: Thursday



## ■ OPERA

Michael Tippett's masterly *A Midsummer Marriage* receives a new production at Covent Garden  
OPENS: Tomorrow  
REVIEW: Thursday



## ■ THEATRE

Wilde at heart: Martin Shaw stars in *An Ideal Husband* at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket  
OPENS: Wednesday  
REVIEW: Friday

## THEATRE: Stagings for John Betjeman and Jean Rhys

BOTH the title and the mis-spelling on the front page of the King's Head programme are calculated to arouse your curiosity. "Betjeman," we read, "a musical revue based on the writings of Sir John Betjeman."

Is it possible that the poet we always called John Betjeman had more than a single personality, and that one of these Betjemans knew how to rave and rage? Was there a Betjemaniac with an eye that, in fine frenzy rolling, glanced from heaven to earth and earth to heaven, like the wild bard Theocritus evoked in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*? Not on the evidence of the amiable, harmless four-person show David Benedictus has stitched together from Betjeman's verse and, occasionally, prose. It would make as much sense to call a reading of George Herbert's religious poetry Herbohysterics. What excitement can be extracted from gymkhanas, Victorian pubs and churches, firelight shining on green linoleum, thatched cottages, WIs and Tunbridge Wells Central Station. It does not exactly raise the roof or, mostly, the audience's spirits.

Mark you, Betjeman's mildly satiric wit is well enough suited to what used to be called intimate revue. His simple, regular rhythms and rhymes beg to be put to music, and have been brightly enough set by John Gould.

## Bard of the Bath teashop

Betjeman  
King's Head

Some numbers — *Varsity Students Rag* or the parody hymn "we spray the fields and scatter the poison on the land" — come with tunes more or less in place already. They tend also to make fun of anything even slightly non-



Cosy cast: Simon Butteriss and Mary Lincoln

veau or vulgar, which is very much the spirit of revue as it rather snobbishly was 40 or 50 years ago.

There have been times — half-microwaved on an airless train, for instance, while all around baby-faced tycoons bark into mobile phones — when I too have shared Betjeman's nostalgic patriotism. Who hasn't? But all that wincing at cars and PRCs and "come friendly bombs, and fall on Slough" suburban city centres had the paradoxical effect of half-reconciling me to the modern world. Is being cosily stuck in the 1940s with one's teddy and one's memories of matron at prep school really so much more enticing than driving fast down the M1 to a G&T in a fake-Georgian roadhouse?

Towards the end, when homosexuality and then death come into the poetic equation, we get a glimpse of a harsher, deeper Betjeman: but Mary Lincoln, Caroline Fitzgerald, Simon Butteriss and Nicholas Caunter do not make him resonate very loudly. Richard Sym's cast has clearly been chosen for its pleasing warmth, deft charm and other such lower-case virtues — and why not? That is what the Bard of the Bath teashop, the villager of peroxide hair and speedboats called Mandy Jane, would seem to require. That is what he deserves.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

## Descent into her twenties

LIFE gave Jean Rhys many a dusty answer as she hurtled from job to job, from marriage to marriage, writing books that didn't sell very well until at last she disappeared from view. The literary world, if it remembered her at all, assumed she was dead. Her re-emergence after 20 years is a story as good as a novel, and at 72 she published *Wide Sargasso Sea*, a prequel to *Jane Eyre*, in which she imagines the life of Mr Rochester's mad wife before she was plucked from the Caribbean to end up in a Brontë novel setting light to curtains.

Memories of a childhood in the West Indies also haunt the heroine of Rhys's earlier novel, admirably adapted here by Joan Wiles for a touring production by Sphinx, formerly the Women's Playhouse Trust. Anna Morgan's stepmother has brought her to cold, unsympathetic London after the death of her father in warm, lush Dominica. She works as a chorus girl, falls in love with a man who eventual-

Voyage in the Dark  
Young Vic

ly disengages himself; she drifts into prostitution, goes for a backstreet abortion and in a last scene, where fever hauls up voices and images from her childhood, stares aghast at the desolate future ahead. She is 19.

Anna's story is all the more poignant for being told in a plain, almost invisible style, from which perceptions suddenly pop out, causing her to seem an astonishingly real creation. She is hopeless; too trusting, too naive, but she is adrift in a city where women are cheaper than the clothes they wear, and Rhys presents her descent as inevitable.

Sue Parrish's production uses just five performers, on a plain, dark set atmospherically lit by Jenny Kagan. Chairs, bed, table, rug are brought in as required, usually danced on, accompanied by the music of a tango making its mock-

ingly sensual comment on Anna's longings. The only permanent feature of Franziska Wilcken's design is a shop window displaying an ostrich-feather fan: symbol of the good life, perhaps also of the not-so-good woman.

On the streets, in bedchambers, in the private rooms of restaurants Anna's story unfolds, punctuated by Parrish with briefly frozen gestures at the end of a scene. These serve as the stage's equivalent of the cunningly simple sentences that close Rhys's chapters and lure you on to the next. Katrina Syran catches the faint loquacity of Anna's character, and the downward drift from reserve to a state where she can do up her blouse in public without caring who notices. Attractive playing by Hazel Holder and Anne White as good-time girls and disapproving landladies, and from Ian Kirkby and Michael Vaughan as waiters and lovers.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## Rhymes with reason

Tonight's T.S. Eliot Prize may bring just reward to a pioneering poetry publisher. Darya Alberge reports



Neil Astley (left) and Simon Thirk, directors of the non-profit-making Bloodaxe

In 1978, NatWest refused to lend a meagre £60 to a postgraduate student with a dream of starting up a poetry publishing company called Bloodaxe. The bank manager said something about it being too speculative a venture.

Undeterred, the student found the money elsewhere. He also changed bank. In the 1990s, Bloodaxe has a turnover of £500,000 and publishes at an extraordinary pace: one book each week. Two volumes from the house that Neil Astley built are up for the T.S. Eliot Prize, announced tonight. Since the award's founding in 1994 — on the fortieth anniversary of the Poetry Book Society, which Eliot was involved in founding — it has already established itself as a major event in the poetry calendar. For prizes, as the publishing world knows, raise the profile of poetry: they improve sales no end.

Poetry needs all the support it can get at a time when leading publishing houses are slimming down or abandoning poetry lists. Sinclair-Stevenson, for example, published its final collection last November.

Sandy Grant, Sinclair-Stevenson's chief executive, describes himself as a poetry lover — "some of my best friends are poets," he jokes — and explains that most were selling under 500 copies, and that they would not contemplate fiction that was going to sell fewer than 3,000. The company felt that its expertise and contacts lay elsewhere in the high culture area.

Chatto & Windus has dispensed with a formal list, and intends to publish the occasional collection that impresses its editors. Jonathan Burnham, Chatto's publishing director, notes that sales of poetry have dwindled over the past five years.

Yet, he adds, the conundrum is that there are more good poets now than there have been for many years, and, to judge by the success of National Poetry Day or of *Poems on the Underground*, a market for poetry must clearly exist.

Indeed, the Arts Council felt the picture was so confusing it has commissioned a survey of the public's attitude towards poetry. Alistair Niven, its head of literature, says that the state of poetry needed clarifying: stories abounded of falling sales as publishers, libraries and even teachers lost interest, while at the same time thousands were jamming the BBC

switchboard last October to vote for their favourite poem. The survey, he says, reflects the nation's deep-rooted interest in poetry.

While Faber, Penguin and Oxford University Press maintain their commitment to poetry, Astley sees the demise of poetry within other leading houses as Bloodaxe's gain. The more the big boys axe their lists, the more Bloodaxe sells.

Astley's own survey showed

that readers come from across the board because his company's poetry has such a range: from the political work of Osip Mandelstam, the Russian master who died in a labour camp in 1938, to the American Tess Gallagher and her lyric poems about kisses (to be published later this month to coincide with Valentine's Day).

Astley says that it was the dreariness of poetry in the 1970s that inspired him to set

up Bloodaxe, (named after the vicious Viking Erik Bloodaxe, who became King of Northumbria in 948). "We like to think," the company says, "that Erik has helped us in the out and thrust of book marketing, traditionally a bloody battlefield for non-profit-making literary publishers."

Poetry books were dull, containing "academic blurb" that even readers of poetry couldn't understand," Astley recalls. Poetry needed a shake-

up: "It was seen as very intellectual, Oxbridge, Hampstead-based, and cliquey."

Even relatively recently, he observes, eight out of 12 poets within a single publishing house were connected with Magdalen College, Oxford: an incoming editor, noting that they were all male, likened himself to the cox of an Oxford boat-club. So by operating from a warehouse in the North East — behind Newcastle Central Station — Bloodaxe is making a definite statement.

For the first four years, Astley was on his own, working 16 hours a day seven days a week, and making ends meet with odd jobs in bookshops

Poetry needed a shake-up — it was seen as cliquey

and arts administration. By 1982, to qualify for a grant, he became a limited company and took on another director Simon Thirk, with whom he had been at Newcastle University. It is a labour of love: there are no profits. Their entire income is ploughed back into the company, paying for a staff of nine.

Government subsidy — £70,000 from Northern Arts — enables Bloodaxe to take risks and to keep books in print even when they are selling in dribs and drabs, some as few as 300. However, sales of volumes such as *No, I'm No Afraid* by Irina Ratushinskaya, the Russian dissident whose poetry was smuggled out of the country in bars of soap, have topped 25,000. When Ratushinskaya was finally released, she came to Newcastle for a reading. It was an emotional time, Thirk recalls. "It shows the power of poetry."

But could we ever match the Russians' enthusiasm for poetry, with their ability to reach a mass audience? Poetry readings over there can fill stadiums the size of Wembley. Hard to imagine that ever happening here. Yet, as Thirk points out, "Think of what the Three Tenors have done for music." He has a point. Only a few years ago, who would have imagined that opera could fill Wembley's terraces?

## CONCERTS: Democracy at work in Birmingham; second thoughts in London

## Modestly out of the ordinary

CBSO/Elder  
Symphony Hall,  
Birmingham

ALTHOUGH no longer chief guest conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Mark Elder will never be just another conductor as long as he insists on giving more than just another concert.

On this occasion he conducted the first Birmingham performance of Tippett's *Triple Concerto*, which is far from just another concerto, with a violinist, violist and cellist drawn from the front desks of what is clearly not just another orchestra.

A performance with big-name soloists would have been different, but not necessarily better. What Lynn Fletcher, Christopher Yates and Ulrich Heinen lacked, in varying degrees, was the will to assert their personalities in terms of both sound and interpretative purpose.

But, while the beginning of the concerto seems to encour-

age individuality in the soloists, other parts of the work — above all, the intensely lyrical central slow section at the heart of it — require them to merge their identities in a single, although multi-coloured, expressive ideal.

The first of three performances in three days (two in Symphony Hall, one in the Royal Hall, Nottingham) was texturally muddled here and there and, in spite of the

conductor's urging, not always clear in its sense of direction.

On the other hand, in circumstances where there was no lack of technical skill and at the same time no affectation of virtuoso heroism, the interpretation was remarkable for an intimacy which extended beyond the soloists to the large-scale orchestral soloists behind them — most directly to their colleagues in the strings, but also to the ranks of percussionists who represent the gamelan inspiration of the work.

At the beginning of the concert Elder had secured an encouragingly poetic account

of Delius's *A Song of Summer*, which was particularly sensitive in its woodland colouring and most persuasively shaped as a miniature structure.

A second half of Holst's *Planets* — similarly idiomatic and similarly well detailed — was an intriguing prospect. Unfortunately, ambition perhaps being ahead of reality, it did not turn out that way.

A shorter score requiring less preparation in the creation of precisely defined atmosphere — the *Enigma Variations*, if it had to be both popular and British — would have obviated the frustration of *Planets* which were highly coloured and yet, except briefly in *Uranus* and at the very last breath of the receding sopranos and altos in *Neptune*, too generalised in character to exercise their mysterious influence.

GERALD LARNER

## The satisfying sounds of panic

LPO/Howarth  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

FOUR months after the event, the "scandal" of the Last Night of the Proms has only just died down in some correspondence columns. The scandal consisted, you may remember, in the programming of a 20-minute piece by Harrison Birtwistle entitled *Panic*. It was generally agreed that Sir Harry's piece was less strong on thumping good patriotic tunes than *Land of Hope and Glory*, but there was a divergence of opinion as to whether it had serious merit or whether it should be regarded as a kind of musical whoopee cushion.

A repeat performance by John Harle on Thursday, this time with the London Philharmonic under Elgar Howarth, offered the chance to reappraise the work. Finding myself last time round in the anomalous position of a

Birtwistle admirer who was yet unconvinced, I was completely won over by this second performance. Was it simply further acquaintance with a complex score? Only in part. I think this seemed in every way a more satisfactory rendition.

Under Howarth's experienced guidance, the players of the London Philharmonic shaped this heavy mass of notation — an evocation of the Dionysian spirit of Pan — into a fire-breathing organism. The layering of the texture (brass alternating and combining with wind) was clearly audible in a way it had not been previously, over the air at

least. Harle's no-holds-barred execution of the manic saxophone part, meanwhile, was this time far better integrated into the texture. Paul Clarvis, flamboyant on drums, once again contributed to the exhilarating rhythmic drive of the piece.

The programme devised by Birtwistle around *Panic* should have included George Crumb's *Echoes of Time* and *The River*; alas the logistics of that fiendish aleatoric score demanded more rehearsal time than was available. Varese's *Ionisation* gave the opportunity for an expanded percussion section to show its mettle.

But there was fascination too in contrasting versions of another work dealing with extremes of expression: Beethoven's *Grosse Fuge*. Mich-

ael Gielen's version for string orchestra used refinements of timbre (mutes, sul ponticello) and redistribution of polyphonic lines in space to highlight the fugal argument.

Edwin Roxburgh's transcription for woodwind and brass, on the other hand, threw a garish spotlight (coloured by shrieking E flat clarinet and booming tuba) onto it, creating an unbridgeable gulf between the material and the medium. Beethoven's trills may have an eccentric quality, but on brass that is exaggerated into grotesquerie. At times Roxburgh's version had an end-of-the-pier ring to it, and that is not where one expects to find the *Grosse Fuge*.

BARRY MILLINGTON

## CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

SCHUMANN'S *Carnaval*  
Reviewed by Jerrold Northrop Moore

Schumann's most celebrated piano work, *Carnaval* is a suite of linked pieces enacting a masked ball. Based on four notes, their names in German spell Asch, the home of the latest flame in Schumann's 24-year-old life. But Ernestine never displaced his Clara.

A huge choice of recordings is available. The earliest playing style is shown by Adelina de Lara (1872-1961), a pupil of Clara herself, who survived her husband by 40 years. De Lara delivers a vigorous performance as part of a six-CD set, *Pupils of Clara Schumann* (Pearl GEMM 99049). Each piece follows without pause and in a continuing pulse. Her 79-year-old fingers slip occasionally, but the mono sound is passable, the touch with the past unique.

The mighty opposite in De Lara's generation was Rachmaninov. His 1929 performance (in RCA's ten-CD set of all his recordings) projects towering virtuosity, larger-than-life contrasts of speed and dynamics: undeniably exciting. All later interpretations play between those goals. A healthy Clara Schumann tradition has come down through Solomon (on Testament), Myra Hess (Pearl), Biddulph and Dutton Laboratories, and Claudio Arrau, who made a

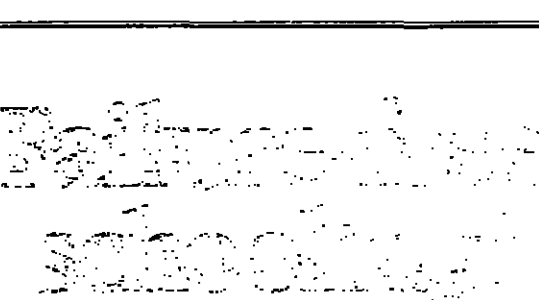


good recording in 1939 (Pearl) and a more typically "agonising" one for Philips (1966). Alfred Cortot also recorded *Carnaval* twice. Avoid the primitive acoustics of 1924 (Biddulph, Pearl). His electric version of 1928 is full of French poetry and some inaccuracies. Beware of Michelangeli's 1957 live recording on Multisonic: the last quarter of the performance is missing. Wilhelm Kempff (four-CD DG set) is dull; Barenboim's (DG budget) is the record of a fine musician on an off day.

Three of the moderns are outstanding. Jenő Jandó (super-budget Naxos 8.550784) gives a whirling performance, clangorously recorded. Ashkenazy (Decca 421 010-2) is marvellous in most ways, but his recording can also clang. Best of all is Mitsuko Uchida (Philips 442 777-2, coupling Schumann's *Kreisleriana*, E13.98). She understands the Schumann tradition, adds consistently fine insights of her own, possesses marvellous technique, and enjoys a sumptuous recording.

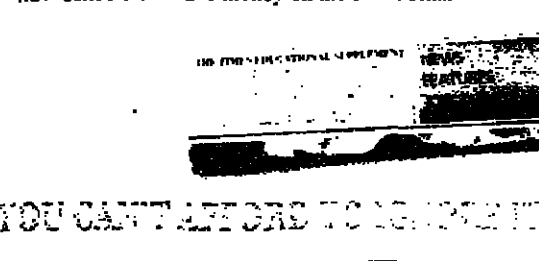
Order recommended recordings from *The Times CD Mail*, 29 Pall Mall Depository, Barby Road, London W10 6BL (0500 418419; e-mail: [hid@mail.bogo.co.uk](mailto:hid@mail.bogo.co.uk))

Next Saturday on Radio 3: Shostakovich's piano quintet.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT UPDATE  
January 19

Can ordinary schooling be successful for every pupil? This Friday in *The Times Educational Supplement* a 20-page School Management Update looks at attempts to establish a new breed of highly reliable schools where failure is no longer tolerated.

There's also a look at how teachers can work together to improve each others' skills and advice on how schools can save money on their fuel bills.



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357	30.00	Chocolates	360	+	7		
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RETAILERS, GENERAL		
50-60	Alcon	173
70-80	Atlanta	67
90-100	Atlanta	137
110-120	Atlanta (Lanc)	137
130-140	Atlanta	137
150-160	Atlanta	137
170-180	Atlanta	137
190-200	Atlanta	137
210-220	Atlanta	137
230-240	Atlanta	137
250-260	Atlanta	137
270-280	Atlanta	137
290-300	Atlanta	137
310-320	Atlanta	137
330-340	Atlanta	137
350-360	Atlanta	137
370-380	Atlanta	137
390-400	Atlanta	137
410-420	Atlanta	137
430-440	Atlanta	137
450-460	Atlanta	137
470-480	Atlanta	137
490-500	Atlanta	137
510-520	Atlanta	137
530-540	Atlanta	137
550-560	Atlanta	137
570-580	Atlanta	137
590-600	Atlanta	137
610-620	Atlanta	137
630-640	Atlanta	137
650-660	Atlanta	137
670-680	Atlanta	137
690-700	Atlanta	137
710-720	Atlanta	137
730-740	Atlanta	137
750-760	Atlanta	137
770-780	Atlanta	137
790-800	Atlanta	137
810-820	Atlanta	137
830-840	Atlanta	137
850-860	Atlanta	137
870-880	Atlanta	137
890-900	Atlanta	137
910-920	Atlanta	137
930-940	Atlanta	137
950-960	Atlanta	137
970-980	Atlanta	137
990-1000	Atlanta	137



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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

**TODAY**  
Interims: Intelek, Tomkins.  
Finals: Coda Group, PWS Holdings, Second Consolidation Trust.  
Economic statistics: Producer prices (December).

**TOMORROW**  
Interims: Debenhams, Tesco, Chinnocks, Farepak, Remy Cointreau.  
Finals: Alexanders Holdings, Citicorp, Gresham Telecomputing, Intel, Microgen Holdings, Quality Care Homes.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Interims: Apple Computer (Q1), Buddgens, Dudley Jenkins Group, Nobo Group, Photo-Me International, Stanley Leisure, UK Land.  
Finals: Ameritech, BankAmerica, First Leisure, Irish Continental.  
Economic statistics: Monthly monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, PSBR (December), unemployment (December), average earnings (November).

**THURSDAY**  
Interims: Heiton Holdings, Magnum Power, McKay Securities, William Ransom, Tottenham Hotspur, Vega Group.  
Finals: Aberforth Smaller Companies, Bankers Trust New York Corp, Brooke Tool Engineering, Brunner IT, Greenwich Resources, Hill & Smith, Microsoft, Neotronics Technology, Premier Land, St David's IT.  
Economic statistics: Retail prices (December), retail sales (December), British Chambers of Commerce quarterly economic survey, Bundesbank council meeting.

**FRIDAY**  
Interims: Abtrust Lloyd's Insurance Trust, British Bloodstock Agency, Cantors, Mitie Group, Park Food Group.  
Finals: None scheduled.  
Economic statistics: Motor vehicle production (December).

COMPANIES

PHILIP PANGALOS



# Tomkins keeps Gates in its sights



Greg Hutchings is expected to reveal where Tomkins stands in its negotiations with Gates

**TOMKINS:** The diversified conglomerate, whose empire spans Rank Hovis McDougall milling and baking to Smith & Wesson handguns, is expected to accompany a solid rise in first-half profits with upbeat noises on prospects when it reports today.

Apart from current trading and prospects, Greg Hutchings, the chairman, will be pressed to provide further details on the group's proposed acquisition of Gates Rubber, the private American motor components group whose products include transmission belts and hoses.

The City still awaits specific financial details concerning the deal, which is rumoured to be worth more than \$1 billion, excluding \$240 million of debt, but could swell to \$1.5 billion.

The company said on Friday that it had nearly completed the detailed contract negotiation on its purchase of Gates, although a couple of technical issues, unrelated to the business, were said to be outstanding.

Gates and Tomkins have been discussing final terms of the deal since mid-December and said a month ago that they expected contracts to be signed by the year end.

Louise Hough at SBC Warburg is looking for first-half pre-tax profits to advance to £128 million (£145 million), with an improved interim dividend of 2.75p (2.43p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £120 million to £130 million.

On the trading front, analysts will be looking to see how the RHM business is performing, given that bread prices are showing signs of recovery. They say fears have been overdone, with the much-trumpeted supermarket bread price wars not having fed through to the producers, while milling and baking has actually seen some price rises.

Analysts will also be waiting to see whether Tomkins has suffered any slowdown in growth in the United States. In spite of adverse movements in the dollar exchange rate, the Smith & Wesson handguns business is thought to be doing well worldwide, with any noises about gun control in America merely fuel-

ling sales in the US market. Elsewhere, items such as snow blowers will have benefited from the recent freeze that gripped the East Coast of America. But lawnmowers and bicycles are still price competitive, with the latter possibly seeing greater competition from China.

With Tomkins's profits skewed towards the second half of its year, which runs to April 30, analysts expect the group to achieve full-year pre-tax profits of between £330 million and £335 million, compared with £303 million last time.

**FIRST LEISURE:** The bingo, ten-pin bowling and discotheques group is expected to provide news of more buoyant trading when it reports full-year figures on Wednesday, in spite of the adverse effects of the hot summer weather on some of its indoor attractions. After a recent comprehensive and largely positive trading update in November, analysts at NatWest Securities expect final pre-tax profits to advance to £39.2 million (£36.1 million). A dividend of 7.7p (7.02p) is predicted.

Dancing is expected to see like-for-like sales growth of about 7

per cent, with growth in admissions and spend-per-head. Sports should also advance, boosted as the Bracknell health and fitness club trades at full capacity. The group's bingo division will benefit from the opening of seven new clubs during the year, but competition, running off the week on Friday, may have depressed trading at the older bingo clubs, where sales are likely to have fallen by about 9 per cent.

**BUDGENS:** The series of Christmas trading updates from retailing groups continues on

Wednesday, when the supermarket chain unveils its interim results.

After years of suffering cut-price competition, Budgens should take another step on the road to recovery. In September, it revealed a return to sales growth, and this should enable first-half pre-tax profits to climb to about £4 million (£1.8 million), according to Kleinwort Benson. A maintained interim dividend of 0.3p is expected.

**STANLEY LEISURE:** The bookmaker and casino operator should be able to partly offset the adverse effects of competition from the National Lottery and scratchcards with better news from its casinos.

UBS expects Stanley Leisure's interim pre-tax profits, due on Wednesday, to show a drop to about £6.5 million (£7.6 million), though the dividend is predicted to rise to 2.2p (2p).

Analysts say the key to long-term prospects is how the racing business is faring, after the hot summer reduced the size of fields, the National Lottery's impact on betting shops and how much casino customers spent.

**PHOTO-ME:** Wednesday's first-half profits from Photo-Me International, the photo booth maker and operator, which derives the bulk of its earnings overseas, are expected to show a modest rise. The company, which also runs copiers, express print services and automatic film processing systems, may suffer from the short-term effects of depreciation charges on its equipment. Kleinwort Benson has pencilled in interim pre-tax profits of £11 million, up from £10 million.

**MITIE GROUP:** The building maintenance company, which supplies services such as painting and decorating to property owners and occupiers, runs off the week on Friday, with what is expected to be another solid set of interim results. Mitie's profit margins are thought to have improved over recent months, which should be reflected in first-half profits that comfortably top last time's £1.85 million.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

## Focus on key prices figures

A bumper crop of economic statistics surrounds Wednesday's monetary meeting between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England.

There are two key sets of prices figures. The consensus forecast, according to MMS International, is for the annual rate of input price inflation to fall to 5.9 per cent, from 6.2 per cent in November, and for output price inflation to edge down to 4.1 per cent, from 4.3 per cent.

On Thursday, it is expected that figures for headline retail prices inflation will show a drop to 3 per cent, from 3.1 per cent in November. Underlying inflation is forecast to have edged down to 2.8 per cent, from 2.9 per cent. The RPI measure, excluding mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes, is expected to be unchanged at 2.4 per cent.

Thursday also sees December retail sales figures, which, based on anecdotal and survey evidence, are expected to confirm a healthy Christmas shopping season. The MMS consensus forecast is for a rise in volumes of 0.7 per cent, pushing up year-on-year growth in sales to 1.5 per cent, from 1.1 per cent in November.

On Wednesday, December's public sector borrowing requirement is published, with the market expecting a figure of about £550 million after November's large borrowing requirement of £3.7 billion. On the same day, labour market statistics are released for December. Unemployment is expected to have fallen by about 10,000 after a fall of 20,000 in November. Average earnings annual growth is predicted to have edged up to 3.5 per cent, from 3.25 per cent.

On Thursday, the Bank of France holds its council meeting and its annual press conference on monetary policy for 1996, while the Bundesbank's policy-making council meets in Frankfurt. On Saturday, finance ministers of the Group of Seven industrialised countries meet in Paris.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

**The Sunday Times:** Buy British Aerospace, Ashbourne, Sell Holder Headline. **The Sunday Telegraph:** Buy GEC, Crown Products, Sipa Resources. **Independent on Sunday:** Buy National Grid, Fuller Smith & Turner, Observer, Buy Matthew Clark. **The Mail on Sunday:** Buy Mirror Group, Reunion Mining.

BUY ONE FULL PRICE TICKET AND GET ANOTHER FOR THE PRICE OF YOUR FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER

# Theatre tickets for only 30p

Today *The Times* brings you the second part of the selection of theatres around the country offering you the chance to take a friend to the theatre for just 30p, the price of Britain's leading quality daily newspaper. There are more than 140 shows at more than 60 theatres throughout the country to choose from.

Musicals feature heavily in the list of shows available, including *Buddy* in Llandudno, *Blood Brothers* in York and *Five Guys Named Moe* in Nottingham. Clarke Peters, who created *Five Guys Named Moe*, can be seen in person in his latest show *Unforgettable - The Nat King Cole Story* in Edinburgh. Inverness and Woking. Other stars in our offer include Adam Faith in Sheffield, Tony Slattery in Darlington and Peter Davison in Bradford and Southend. Old Time Music Hall retains its

popularity and there's no better place to enjoy a night at the music hall than the City Varieties Theatre in Leeds, home of the BBC's *The Good Old Days* for over 20 years, where Linda Nolan heads the cast. You can also enjoy Music Hall in Darlington where Danny La Rue tops the bill.

Whatever your taste in theatre, from Shakespeare to popular contemporary writers, you are guaranteed a great evening.

To take advantage of our offer reserve your tickets by telephone directly with your chosen theatre and collect five of the six tokens and attach them to the voucher appearing in *The Times* this week and attach them to the voucher appearing in *The Times* this week. When you purchase one ticket at the listed price you will receive a second of equal value for 30p.

A full list of participating theatres in London and the south of England appeared on Saturday.



Beauty and the Beast: David Essex wrote the music and lyrics for the show

### HOW TO GET YOUR 30p THEATRE TICKETS

Collect five of the six tokens appearing in *The Times* this week and telephone the number given for the performance of your choice. When you provide the number given for the performance of your choice, you will receive a second ticket for 30p, plus one ticket at the listed price, you will receive a second ticket for 30p. Please do not telephone the theatre before Thursday, January 18, which is the first day they will start accepting bookings for this offer. Please state at the first day they will start accepting bookings for this offer. Please state at the time of booking you are using *The Times* theatre ticket offer tokens. You may book over the phone but tickets cannot be issued until tokens have been received by the booking office. The offer is limited to one 30p ticket per performance per household. You may, however, book for more than one show at venues marked \* and claim a 30p ticket for each. You will production, but you must book all your tickets at the same time. You will need another set of five tokens for each performance; the voucher (right) will cover them all. The tokens are valid only for the performance stated in the offer and cannot be exchanged for cash or used in conjunction with any other offer. All tickets are subject to availability.

**BIRMINGHAM**  
Alexandra Theatre 0121-643 1231 Great Expectations with Darren Day, Nyma Durr Porter and Colin Baker, Jan 22 to Feb 17 Inc Weds mat - £18.50/£19.50/£21.50.

**BLACKPOOL**  
Pleasure Beach Arena 01253 341707 Beauty and the Beast, with the Russian All Stars, Jan 24, 25, 26, 7.30pm, Jan 27 and 28 at 2pm and 7.30pm - £18.50/£17.50/£12.50.

**BRADFORD**  
Alexandra Theatre 01274 752 000 The Roy Orbison Story - Only The Lonely, Feb 26, 7.30pm - stalls only £15.50/£17.50. The Changing Room, Apr 1 - stalls only £13/£15. Dial M For Murder with Peter Davison and Katherine Robbott, Mar 4 - £13/£15.

**BUXTON**  
Opera House 01298 72190 Unprecedented Guest, Jan 24, 25, 26, 7.30pm, Jan 27, 2.30pm - all ticket prices. Farnside Avenue Murder Mystery, Jan 31, Feb 1 and 2, 7.30pm, Feb 3, 2.30pm - all ticket prices. Price and Prejudice with Janet Brown, Feb 7 and 8 at 7.30pm - £9.50. Phil Cool, Feb 11 at 7.30pm - £9.

**CHESTER**  
Gateway Theatre 01244 340 382 California Suits, Feb 2 to 10 - Tues/Weds/Thurs: £7.50/£9.50; Fri/Sat: £10/£12. Bouncers, Mar 1 to 9, Tues/Weds/Thurs: £7.50/£9.50; Fri/Sat: £10/£12. Strangers on a Train, Apr 1 to 6 (no performance on Apr 5), Tues/Weds/Thurs: £7.50/£9.50; Sat: £10/£12.

**COVENTRY**  
Belgrade Theatre 01203 553 055 Whole Lotta Shakin' - The Explosive Story of Jerry Lee Lewis with Bill Gaughy, Jan 30 to Feb 24 - any performance, £9/£15, concs available.

**DARLINGTON**  
Civic Theatre 01925 488 555 Conduct Unbecoming with Carol Drinkwater, Gerald Harper, Christopher Blake and John Benfield, Feb 20 to 23 at 7.30pm - £14.50. Adzido Odu African Dance Ensemble - Thand' Abantwana, Mar 12 and 13 - £12.50. Phoenix Dance Company Inc. Hazardous Passages and Movements in 8, Mar 16 - £12.50. A Passionate Woman with Stephanie Cole, Mar 19 to 22 - £14.50. Dial M for Murder with Peter Davison, Apr 2 to 5 - £14.50. Now You Know with Adam Faith, Apr 16 to 19 - £14.50. The Good Old Days with Danny La Rue, Steven Barclay and The Holloways, May 7 to 10 - £10.50.

**HALIFAX**  
Victoria Theatre 01422 344 555 The Cuckoo's Nest, Feb 13, 14, 20, 21 - £8 and 15 concs.

**HARROGATE**  
Harrogate Theatre 01423 502 116 The Diary of Anne Frank, Jan 26, 27 and 30 - £5.50/£10.50/£6.50/£12.

**LEEDS**  
Grand Theatre 0113-245 8351 Opera North - Love Life, Jan 24 (full price preview tickets), Jan 30 and 31 - £24/£28/£36. City Varieties Music Hall 0113 242 5045. The Good Old Days with Linda Nolan, Mar 29, Apr 12, 19, 26, evenings, Mar 30, Apr 3, 20, 27, matinees - all ticket prices. West Yorkshire



Musical delight: Five Guys Named Moe, the Theatre Royal, Nottingham

Playhouse 0113 244 2111 The Government Inspector with Bob Mason, Feb 15 to 29 - £12.50/£10.

**LEICESTER**  
Haymarket Theatre 0116-253 8797 The Homecoming, Mar 7 to 23 - £9.50 for previews and weekday matinees, £12.50 Mon to Thurs, £14.50 Fri and Sat. A Midsummer Night's Dream with Roger Lloyd Pack, Annette Badland and Helen Baxendale, Feb 6 to Mar 2 - £9.50 for previews and weekday matinees, £12.50 Mon to Thurs, £14.50 Fri and Sat. Princess on Parade with Benwick Keler, May 3 to 25, £9.50 for previews and weekday matinees, £12.50 Mon to Thurs, £14.50 Fri and Sat.

**MANCHESTER**  
Palace Theatre 0161-242 2503 Beauty and the Beast with the Russian All Stars, Mar 27, 28 and 29, 7.30, Mar 30 and 31 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm - £19.50/£16.50/£12.50/£7.50/£2.50.

**NEWCASTLE**  
Arena 0191-401 8000 Beauty and the Beast with the Russian All Stars, Feb 21 and 22 at 7.30, Feb 24 at 2pm and 7.30 - £16.50/£15/£12.50/£10.

**NOTTINGHAM**  
Theatre Royal 0115-948 2826 A Christmas Carol with Anton Rodgers and Owen Paul, matinee only Jan 30 and 31, and Feb 1 - £9/£18.50, stalls, dress and upper circle and balcony. Five Guys Named Moe, Feb 5 and 6 - £16/£18.50, stalls and dress circle. Swan Lake, Feb 13 - £18 stalls, dress and upper circle.

**PRESTON**  
Guild Hall 0161-242 2503 Beauty and the Beast with the Russian All Stars, Apr 3, 4, 5, 7.30pm, Apr 6 and 7 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm - £19.50/£16.50/£12.50/£7.50/£2.50.

**SUNDERLAND**  
Empire Theatre 0191-514 2517 La Boheme/Luna Miller/Love Life, Feb 20 to 24 - £6/£14/£18/£22/£30/£34. Lucky Sods, Feb 13 at 7.30pm - £4.50/£5/£6/£7.50/£9.50.

**SHEFFIELD**  
Sheffield Theatre 0114-276 9922 Prides on

Antony Rodgers as Scrooge in the musical A Christmas Carol

Parade with Tony Slattery and Nicholas Le Prevost, Feb 5 at 7.45pm - £14/£16

**WHITLEY BAY**  
Playhouse 0191-252 3505 The Magic Flute, Feb 9 and 10 at 7.30pm - £5. Two Fab 28 at 7.30pm - £7.50. Like a Virgin Mar 7, 8 and 9 at 7.30pm - £5. Dr Faustus, Mar 18 and 19 at 7.30pm - £5. The Old Man and the Angel, Apr 10 and 11, 7.30pm - £7.50.

**WORCESTER**  
Swan Theatre 01905 273 22 Merchant of Venice, Feb 12 - £8.50. Ring-a-Ring-o-Flowers, Mar 7 - £5.50. Steaming Apr 4 - £8.50.

**YORK**  
Grand Opera House 01904 671 818 Blood Brothers, Jan 16 - £18.50. Carmen, Jan 24, 7.30pm - £15. Beauty and the Beast, with the Russian All Stars, Jan 31, Feb 1 and 2 at 7.30pm, Feb 3 and 4 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm - Wed/Thurs evenings: £16.50/£14.50/£12.50/£4. Fri/Sat/Sun evenings: £18.50/£16/£13.50/£3.50/£2.50. The Wizard of Oz, Feb 5, 8.00pm - £13.50. Ferry Cross the Mersey with Gerry Marsden, Mar 18, 7.30pm - £15.50. My Cousin Rachel, Mar 25 at 7.30pm - £12.50. What a Feeling! with Irene Cara, Sonia and Felix Arns, Apr 2 at 7.30pm - £15.50.

**WALES**

**LLANDUDNO**  
North Wales Theatre 01492 872 000 Buddy, Mar 12 at 8pm - £11/£15/£17/£19.

**CARDIFF**  
Sherman Theatre 01222 320 451 Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, Feb 13 to 17 at 7.30pm - all tickets.

**SCOTLAND**

**DUNDEE**  
Card Hall 01382 43441 Beauty and the Beast with the Russian All Stars, Feb 7, 8 and 9 at 7.30pm, Feb 10 and 11 at 2pm and 7.30pm -

**EDINBURGH**  
Royal Lyceum Theatre 0131-229 9887 The Sharmie with Ann Louise Ross, Janette Feggo, Muriel Romances and Caroline Hutton, Jan 22 and 23 at 7.45pm - £10/£11.50. Festival Theatre 0131-529 5800. Gulliver's Travels, Jan 23 to 27 at 7.30pm - £5. Kings Theatre 0131-228 4848. Unforgettable - The Nat King Cole Story, Jan 30 and 31, Feb 1 - £14.50. Beauty and the Beast with the Russian All Stars, Feb 14 and 16 at 7.30pm, Feb 15 and 17 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm - evenings: £20/£14/£16/£15/£12/£10; matinees: £14/£12/£10/£9/£7/£5.

**GLASGOW**  
Tron Theatre 0141-5524257 Heaven, Jan 31 at 8pm - £7.50/£6.50. Dr Faustus, Jan 14 at 8pm - £7.50/£6.50. And Other Curious Questions, Feb 21 at 8pm - £7.50/£6.50. Endgame with Forbes Masson and Jan Wilson, Mar 10 at 7pm - £8/£7.

**GLENROTHES**  
Roths Hall 01592 611 101 Midge Ure in Concert, Jan 23, 8pm - £8/£9.50. Ann Brem and Johnny McEvoy in Concert, Jan 25 at 8pm - £8.50 and 7.50 concs. Burns 200 - The Tribute with Johnnie Beane, Dean Park, John Murray and Mary Cameron, Jan 31 at 7.30pm - £8.50/£7.50. Wind in the Willows, Feb 14, 1.30pm and 7pm - £7. The Vienna Festival Ballet - Sleeping Beauty, Feb 18, 7.30pm - £11 and £9 concs. The Chippendales (Adults only), Mar 21, 8pm - £13/£14.50.

**INVERNESS**  
Eden Court Theatre 01463 221 718 Unforgettable - The Nat King Cole Story with Clarke Peters, Feb 13 to 15 at 8.00pm - £14/£16. Hansel and Gretel, Feb 21 at 7.15pm - £17/£22/£25.

**STIRLING**  
MacRobert Arts Centre 01786 461 081 Twelfth Night, Feb 27 to 29 Feb at 7.30pm - £9/£5. Random Dances Company - For Bransard Anghel, Cyborg and Jacob's Mambamba, Feb 10 at 7.30pm - £5.50/£4.

**THE TIMES 30p THEATRE TICKETS**  
Mr/Mrs/Other .....  
First Name(s) .....  
Surname .....  
Address .....  
Postcode .....  
Home phone .....  
This form, when five different Times tokens are attached, entitles the bearer to buy a theatre ticket at the price listed in the Times offer and to get another one for 30p. At theatres marked with an asterisk, you can also use this voucher and five tokens to buy tickets for the other shows listed and receive a second ticket for 30p for each show.

THE TIMES  
30p  
THEATRE  
TICKETS  
TOKEN 2



BY MARTIN BARROW

David Wenn, British Coal's head of property, said: "The North Wales package represents the biggest single property portfolio to be offered for sale in the region for many years. It embraces an area where quality agricultural land has traditionally attracted high values."

Since the Government's privatisation of pits and opencast sites more than a year ago, British Coal has completed the sale of non-mining activities, ranging from fuel manufacturing and distribution companies to house sales, worth some £150 million.

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**By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR**

underperforming companies that lag behind a group of world-class firms. Looking at engineering plants in Britain, the Netherlands and the US, a new study published by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research finds that average US labour productivity levels are some 25 per cent higher than in their Dutch counterparts and as much as two-thirds higher than in British plants. Much of the USA's produc-

tivity advantage stems from greater economies of scale. US plants work with much larger average production batch sizes and suffer from less machinery downtime when production shifts change. Larger batch sizes also allow for higher machine-manning levels and greater use of automated production equipment.

The study also notes that higher US productivity is achieved with comparatively lower skill levels in America than in Europe.

**GILDED**

But why should yields provide a conundrum? Because the market is neither a true high yielder nor is it quite able to match the French market, in terms of the yield differential over Bunds, in spite of easily identifiable improvements in domestic determinants of the gilts market. The most visible change is that it is now much easier to judge the overall policy framework in spite of occasional disagreements. In principle, these disagreements are healthy and necessary, even though they can be temporarily counterproductive if on trivial differences.


will prevent, a *stop/go* economic cycle. The outlook, in not only 1996 but the medium term, is for GDP to grow between 2 to 3 per cent—that is, there should be no widening of the output gap. A steady economic cycle should also prevent volatility in retail price-setting. So the underlying inflation will remain comfortable. Not too much stress should be put on the underlying inflation rate being 2.8 per cent, and not 2.5. The point is that in the past two years inflation has been, and over the next two or three years will continue to be, stable in a 2 to 3.5 per cent range, matching "hard-

The conundrum for gills steady growth, good inflation, better fiscal backdrop than many in Europe and policy transparency with stop/go economic cycles is a thing of the past – surely this is the recipe for spreads over Germany to fall to Danish or even French levels. Maybe what is needed to solve the conundrum is a currency level seen by international investors as either obviously cheap or in an era of stability, rather than on the continuous downward spiral of the mark rates of 2002 and the right side of the curve. But while we wait for the market to correct price the UK risk premium, it is back to political intrigue and a range of 140bps to 225bps over Germany this year.

**KATY PETERS AND  
SANJAY JOSHI**  
*Daiwa Europe*

## ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

week at 8½p. David Abrams, a dealer at Winterflood Securities, said. SkyePharm had attracted the biggest turn over so far on AIM.



# KEENE on CHESS

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**BY RAYMOND KEENE**  
**CHIEF CORRESPONDENT**

**Spanish Torture**

The Ruy Lopez opening is one of White's most successful in international chess. Named after the 16th century Spanish priest Ruy Lopez, this line is often known as the Spanish torture. British grandmaster Michael Adams is a particular exponent of its virtues and in the tournament at Groningen he used it to terminate grandmaster Gata Kamsky's dreams of sharing first prize with Anatoly Karpov.

In spite of fierce resistance, Adams succeeded in capitalising on his extra pawn in the endgame.

**White: Michael Adams**  
**Black: Gata Kamsky**  
**Groningen, December 1995**

**Ruy Lopez**

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	0-0	b5
6	Re1	Be7
7	h3	h6

29	Rac1	b3
30	Be1	Nh5
31	Kf1	Rf6
32	Rd1	Nf4
33	Rd2	e5
34	Rf6d1	Kh7
35	h4	Rf6
36	g3	Ne6
37	Rd8	Rd4
38	Bc3	Rf7+
39	Rc1	Nc4
40	Rc2	Rf1
41	Kf2	Ra1
42	Ba5	Rc4
43	Bc3	Rc4
44	Ka3	Nc2+
45	Ka2	Nd4+
46	Bxd4	exd4
47	Rxb3	Rc1
48	h5	Kg8
49	g4	Kf7
50	Kd3	Rd1+
51	Kd4	Ka6
52	Rd3	Rf1
53	b4	Ka5
54	h5	Rc1+
55	Kf4	Rc1
56	Rf3	Kc8
57	b5	Rc8
58	Ka3	Rc8
59	b7	Rf8
60	Kb2	Kc5
61	Kc2	Kc4
62	Rb1	d3+

0171-782 7344

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
UDC: 007738 OF 1995  
IN MATTER OF THE  
COMPANIES CODE  
IN THE MATTER OF  
EVERESTS & REGAL  
SERVICES LIMITED  
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE  
COMPANIES ACT 1985**

**NOTICE OF HERETOFOR  
WAS ON 14 JANUARY 1995  
presented to Her Majesty's High Court  
of Justice in England and Wales  
of the above capital of the above  
company now £750,000 to £7,000,000  
the constitution of the above  
share nominal account of the Company  
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN  
that the constitution of the above  
share nominal account of the Company  
as, Benjamin J. Bentley at the Royal C  
24th day of January 1995.**

**ANY CREDIT or Shareholder of  
the above company who is entitled  
an Order for the confirmation  
redemption of the above capital should  
the time of appearing in person  
Court for that purpose.**

**any of the said Petition should be  
to any such person requiring the  
the undersigned Solicitors are  
the undersigned Solicitors are  
dated the 14th day of January 1995.  
Witnessed This 0115 By  
14 Jan 1995, through NGR  
Ref: 320**

**Solicitors for the above-named**

[illegible]

against such auctioneers stopped playing big violas and church organs some time ago."

Although the auctioneer look like the sort of thing seen in certain husband-and-wife partnerships (in the wife would be Spades), he had a logical basis. R. J. INT was forcing and Spades showed a m



**MOLA**

- a. A female tooth
- a. A gaudy blouse
- c. A stick-on beauty spot

**HAMBO**

- a. A Swedish folk dance
- b. An aggressive pig
- c. An Italian pork-pie

hotel, Regent's	17 Bq5
on January	18 Bq4
26th. Tickets	19 Q4
from The	20 Q4d4
Office, 31	21 Bq3
Mordake,	22 Bq4
PH. Informa-	23 Bq6
44.	24 Q4d4
man writes on	25 Q4b6
Friday in the	26 Q4b6
Weekend	27 Q4b6
day.	28 Q4b6

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**By R.**

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Raymond Keene writes of his chess match on Monday to Friday in the morning and in the Weekend edition on Saturday.

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- Marketing
- Finance
- Human Resources

For more information, please contact us at 01908 854321.



## De Beers mission to Moscow

De Beers top managers will fly to Moscow today for more talks with Russian officials regarding a new diamond sales contract. Hopes that after months of negotiations a positive outcome is imminent helped propel De Beers shares to a 17-month high on the Johannesburg stock exchange last week.

Under the current deal, Russia sells 95 per cent of its uncut gems through the De Beers Central Selling Organisation in London.

## Executives in spotlight

The position of two executives at Robert Fleming, the investment bank, is in the spotlight after continued investigations by the Stock Exchange into heavy trading in shares of Caradon, the building products company, last September before the release of its half-year figures.

## Fidelity talks

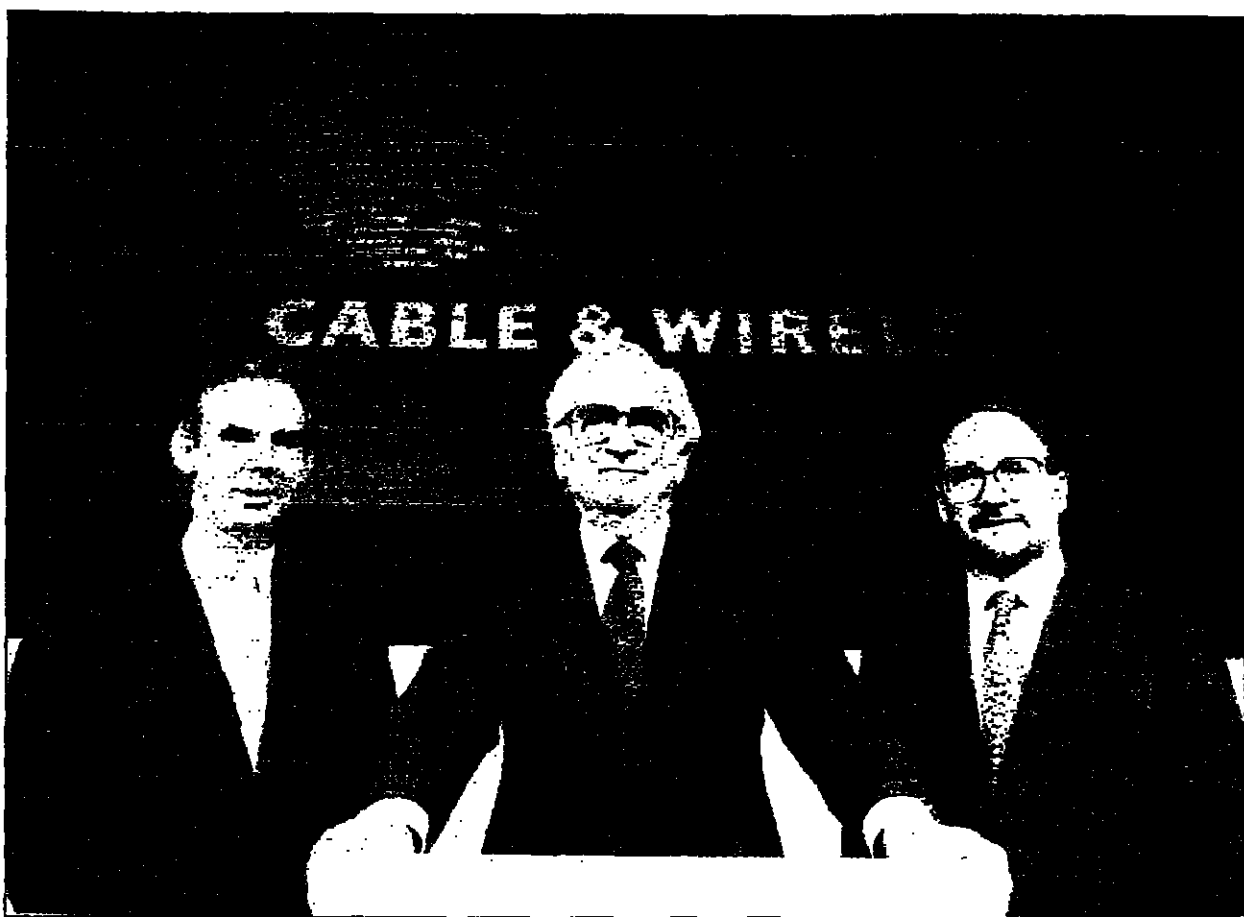
Fidelity Brokerage will today enter into exclusive negotiations with Hambros Bank until March 1 over the proposed acquisition of Hambros Clearing's futures, options and bond brokerage business.

## Taking parts

Independent Parts Group (IPG), the manufacturer and distributor of car replacement parts, has won a major contract from a European carmaker, believed to be GM Motors, to supply exhaust systems.

## Pension boost

Standard Life is to launch a Flexible Pension Plan, with a minimum purchase price of £100,000, to enable investors to supplement their income from other sources such as a company pension.



Autumn leavers: James Ross, left, chief executive of Cable and Wireless, Lord Young, chairman, and Duncan Lewis

# C&W faces shareholder pressure over new chief

By ERIC REGULY

CABLE and Wireless will come under pressure from shareholders today to reveal how much progress it has made in the search for a replacement for James Ross, the chief executive who was ousted in November along with Lord Young of Graffham, the executive chairman.

Today's extraordinary meeting was called to change the articles of incorporation to allow Rod Olsen, the finance director who is a New Zealander, to become acting chief executive until a replacement is found. Under the current articles, the chief executive must be a British citizen if

there is no executive chairman. Lord Young has been replaced with a non-executive chairman.

C&W has hired Russell Reynolds, the head-hunting consultancy, to produce a shortlist of candidates for the chief executive post. One of them is thought to be Duncan Lewis, the former chief executive of Mercury Communications, which is 80 per cent owned by C&W.

The choice was narrowed when British Telecom — Britain's only other quoted, fixed-wire telecom company — hired Sir Peter Bonfield, former head of ICL, the British

computer group owned by Japan's Fujitsu Ltd, as chief executive in November. Michael Hephner, former managing director of British Telecom, who left the group at the same time, swiftly ruled himself out of the C&W job.

Mr Lewis left Mercury Communications in the autumn, less than a year after announcing Mercury's restructuring, but has broad backing from institutions. C&W has said it expects to have a new chief in place by the late spring.

C&W may also reveal at today's meeting how much compensation it has agreed to

pay Lord Young, who shortly before his departure had agreed to remain as chairman until early 1997.

IBCA, the European credit-rating agency, has downgraded C&W's long-term rating from A+ to A-. The short-term A1 rating is unchanged. It reflects continuing concerns over the future of activities in Hong Kong when the colony is handed over by Britain to China, given that Hongkong Telecom provides the bulk of group operating profits.

IBCA gave a warning that high levels of capital expenditure, in excess of cashflows, continue to be made.

## Vestey sells insurance business to reduce debt

By ROBERT MILLER

VESTHEY, the shipping to food services and farming group headed by Lord Vestey and his cousin Edmund Vestey, will today further reduce its debt mountain and move nearer to a possible stock market flotation in the year 2000 with the disposal of the final company in its insurance portfolio.

With the sale of RF Kershaw, an independent Lloyd's Members Agents, to a management buyout, Vestey has more than halved its debt from £145 million in January 1995 to £65 million. Other insurance disposals include Albion, the general insurer, to Sterling and Robert Barrow, a non-trading insurance broker.

In the early 1990s, Vestey had debts of £424 million. However, the Vestey empire, once regarded as one of the UK's most powerful private companies, has undergone a radical cost-cutting and restructuring in recent years.

Last year, Union International, part of the Vestey combine which owned brand names such as Dewhurst, the high street butchers' chain, and British Beef, was finally put into receivership. Debt levels, however, had been dramatically reduced by Terry Robinson, a former director of Lomrho, who became chief executive of Union in 1992 before bowing out last year.

Two years ago, Sir John Collins, former chairman of Shell UK, joined Vestey as chief executive and Robert Cooper was subsequently recruited from Robert Fleming as finance director.

## Keeping it in the family

IF Sir Rocco Forte wonders how — and where — Granada gathered some of its information about Forte before launching its hostile bid, he could ask close to home.

A book by Jonathan Pryor, audit partner at Smith & Williamson, the chartered accountant, has recently been published which is a mine of information for advisers to, and in, the hotel industry.

The Client and Adviser Guide: Hotels (Tolley's £34.95) even has a section on valuation of hotels, and another on acquisition. And who wrote the preface that enthuses about the "database of relevant accounting, property, tax and legal information"? Why, Mrs Olga Polizzi, managing director of Forte's building and design division, and Sir Rocco's sister.

## Boring? Not us

IF THE Woolwich places little, if any, business the way of stockbroker Panmure Gordon in the weeks ahead, here's why. Peter Robinson, Woolwich's chief executive, was not impressed to learn that Tim Clarke, Panmure's banking analyst, had described the Woolwich as "boring". Robinson, defending his patch, insists the Woolwich has all sorts of exciting and profitable continental operations. Clarke is unrepentant. "If the most dramatic thing they have to say about their business is that it is diversified, then that's hardly going to get anyone to buy shares."

## Home truths

A PERIOD of "gardening leave" is not all sunshine and sand, as Andrew Speak, who resigned last November as a director of corporate finance at Samuel Montagu, will testify. Speak joins Charterhouse Bank next month. His wife, Helen Pernelet, took maternity leave from BZW, also in November, since when both

## THE TIMES



## CITY DIARY

have been "at home". "There's been no three months' skiing leave for us. I've been reading pamphlets on pushchairs and attending ante-natal classes," Speak sighs.

## Wine and...

RACING to market is Rystone Wines, of which Derby winning trainer David O'Brien, son of Irish horse racing legend Vincent, is a director. The vineyard-owning and wine-producing company was set up in 1993 by ex-Majestic founder Esme Johnstone and Australian-trained winemaker Hugh Rymann. Rystone will raise the equivalent of £24 million through brokers Williams de Broe before an eventual listing on the AIM.

## ... Cleese

TODAY, the pathfinder for Stock Exchange-bound MediaKey, the publishing and media group seeking to raise £20 million, is issued. Also today, the institutional roadshow kicks off. The document will be serious-minded, with detail of MediaKey's plan to acquire Video Arts Group. The roadshow, by contrast, could be a barrel of laughs. Fund managers are promised snippets from comedy actor John Cleese, co-founder of Video Arts, which he gathered while researching *Fawlty Towers*. When Cleese asked a porter at The Savoy what job he least liked, the reply was "taking out the stiffs".

COLIN CAMPBELL

## Party Land to open in UK

By SARAH BAGNALL

PARTY LAND, America's largest supplier of party paraphernalia, plans to open 60 stores in the United Kingdom over the next five years.

The enterprise, which is based in Philadelphia and is run as a franchise chain, has 107 stores worldwide with a total annual turnover of \$40 million.

John Barry, vice-president in charge of Party Land's franchising, said: "Britain is an attractive market for us. There are no large party companies here, mainly mom and pop shops. What we will

bring is a party supply emporium."

Ten of the planned stores will be in central London, with others in places such as Brighton and Birmingham.

Party Land, which has already opened in Singapore, Israel and Puerto Rico, supplies a wide range of party products such as balloons, streamers, plates and invitations — of which it offers more than 300 varieties — are the best-seller and account for 25 per cent of sales.

On average, American families spend about \$20 per

shopping trip and hold eight parties a year.

Mr Barry said: "A conservative estimate is that we hope to open up to ten stores in the UK this year. The target date for the first store opening is June." The stores will be about 3,000 sq ft, the franchise cost of which will be \$149,000. The franchisees will be flown to Philadelphia for a week-long course at Party Land University, which includes training in a range of skills, such as making balloon arches and balloon columns, and in-store experience.

## TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	16.66	15.16
Belgium Fr	48.78	44.48
Canada \$	2.207	2.047
Cyprus Cyp£	0.740	0.686
Denmark Kr	9.22	8.42
Finland Mk	7.30	6.65
France Fr	6.05	7.40
Germany Dm	2.38	2.17
Greece Dr	384.00	389.00
Hong Kong \$	12.58	11.58
Ireland P£	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.2100	4.5800
Italy Lira	2544.00	2389.00
Japan Yen	178.20	180.20
Malta	0.589	0.534
Netherlands Gld	2.648	2.416
New Zealand \$	2.48	2.28
Norway Kr	10.38	9.58
Portugal Esc	242.50	224.00
Spain Ptas	194.50	181.50
Sweden Kr	10.77	9.57
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	87579.0
USA \$	1.639	1.509

Rates for small denomination notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

## THE POUND

US dollar 1.5472 (-0.0058)  
German mark 2.2291 (-0.0035)  
Exchange index 83.3 (-0.2)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2720.9 (-16.3)  
FT-SE 100 3657.3 (-47.2)  
New York Dow Jones 5061.12 (-120.31)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 20287.42 (-381.61)

# NOTICE TO HALIFAX INVESTORS

	UK RATES				NON-RESIDENT RATES				NON-PERSONAL RATES			
	GROSS PA	GROSS CA	NET PA	NET CA	GROSS PA	GROSS CA	NET PA	NET CA	GROSS PA	GROSS CA	NET PA	NET CA
<b>SPECIAL RESERVE BOND*</b>	6.30	-	3.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>HALIFAX TESSA 2* Standard rate</b>	5.90	-	-	-	5.90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Matured TESSA*</b>	5.90	-	3.45	-	5.90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>BONUS GOLD* (Including Bonus)</b>												
\$100,000+	6.05	-	4.54	-	5.90	-	5.65	-	4.24	-	-	-
\$50,000+	5.80	-	4.35	-	5.65	-	5.50	-	4.13	-	-	-
\$25,000+	5.55	-	4.16	-	5.40	-	5.25	-	3.94	-	-	-
\$10,000+	5.30	-	3.98	-	5.15	-	5.10	-	3.83	-	-	-
<b>Monthly Income Option (Including Bonus)</b>												
\$100,000+	5.90	6.05	4.43	4.51	5.76	5.90	5.52	5.65	4.14	4.21	-	-
\$50,000+	5.66	5.80	4.25	4.32	5.52	5.65	5.38	5.50	4.04	4.10	-	-
\$25,000+	5.43	5.55	4.07	4.13	5.28	5.40	5.14	5.25	3.86	3.92	-	-
\$10,000+	5.19	5.30	3.89	3.96	5.04	5.15	5.00	5.10	3.75	3.81	-	-
<b>SOLID GOLD*</b>												
\$50,000+	5.20	-	3.90	-	5.05	-	5.00	-	3.75	-	-	-
\$25,000+	4.95	-	3.71	-	4.80	-	4.75	-	3.56	-	-	-
\$10,000+	4.45	-	3.34	-	4.30	-	4.45	-	3.34	-	-	-
\$5,000+	3.70	-	2.78	-	3.55	-	3.60	-	2.70	-	-	-
\$500+	3.45	-	2.59	-	3.30	-	3.30	-	2.48	-	-	-
<b>Monthly Income Option</b>												
\$50,000+	5.08	5.20	3.81	3.88	4.94	5.05	4.89	5.00	3.67	3.73	-	-
\$25,000+	4.84	4.95	3.63	3.69	4.70	4.80	4.65	4.75	3.49	3.54	-	-
\$10,000+	4.36	4.45	3.27	3.32	4.22	4.30	4.36	4.45	3.27	3.32	-	-
\$5,000+	3.64	3.70	2.73	2.78	3.49	3.55	3.54	3.60	2.66	2.69	-	-
\$500+	3.40	3.45	2.55	2.58	3.25	3.30	3.23	3.30	2.44	2.47	-	-
<b>LIQUID GOLD*</b>												
\$25,000+	4.15	-	3.11	-	4.00	-	3.90	-	2.95	-	-	-
\$10,000+	3.75	-	2.81	-	3.60	-	3.60	-	2.70	-	-	-
\$5,000+	3.25	-	2.44	-	3.10	-	3.05	-	2.29	-	-	-
\$2,500+	3.10	-	2.35	-	2.95	-	2.85	-	2.14	-	-	-
\$500+	2.85	-	2.14	-	2.70	-	2.60	-	1.95	-	-	-
<b>ASSET RESERVE CHEQUE ACCOUNT</b>												
\$25,000+	5.25	5.35	3.94	4.00	5.25	5.35	4.65	4.73	3.49	3.53	-	-
\$10,000+	4.95	5.04	3.71	3.77	4.95	5.04	4.20	4.27	3.15	3.19	-	-
\$5,000+	4.60	4.68	3.45	3.49	4.60	4.68	3.95	4.01	2.96	3.00	-	-
\$500+	3.90	3.96	2.95	2.96	3.90	3.96	3.65	3.70	2.74	2.77	-	-
<b>YOUNG SAVERS*</b>												
\$2,000+	3.40	3.43	2.55	2.57	3.40	3.43	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>MAXIM</b>												
\$2,000+	1.25	1.26	0.94	0.94	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$500+	0.65	0.65	0.49	0.49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>CARDCASE</b>												
\$50+	0.65	0.65	0.49	0.49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>MATURED FUNDS ACCOUNT*</b>												
\$10,000+	4.00	-	3.00	-	4.00	-	4.00	-	3.00	-	-	-
\$2,000+	3.40	-	2.55	-	3.40	-	3.40	-	2.55	-	-	-
<b>Monthly Income</b>												
\$10,000+	3.93	-	2.95	-	3.93	-	3.93	-	2.95	-	-	-
\$2,000+	3.35	-	2.51	-	3.35	-	3.35	-	2.51	-	-	-
<b>TREASURER'S ACCOUNT*</b>												
\$2,500+	4.85	-	3.64	-	-	-	4.85	-	3.64	-	-	-
\$500+	4.30	-	3.23	-	-	-	4.30	-	3.23	-	-	-
\$1+	1.35	-	1.01	-	-	-	1.35	-	1.01	-	-	-
<b>CLOSED ISSUES</b>												
TESSA Gold*	6.40	-	-	-	6.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Including maturity bonus	6.52	-	-	-	6.52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halifax TESSA*	5.90	-	-	-	5.90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Including maturity bonus	6.70	-	-	-	6.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Instant Xtra	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	-	-
7 Day Xtra £200+	2.50	2.52	1.88	1.89	2.50	2.52	2.50	2.52	1.88	1.89	-	-
28 Day Xtra £500+	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	-	-
Special Investment Account (1st Issue)	3.00	3.02	2.25	2.26	3.00	3.02	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Investment Account (2nd Issue)	2.50	2.52	1.88	1.89	2.50	2.52	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Year Term Share	3.00	3.02	2.25	2.26	3.00	3.02	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subscription Share	2.50	2.52	1.88	1.89	2.50	2.52	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matured Subscription Share	2.50	2.52	1.88	1.89	2.50	2.52	-	-	-	-	-	-







# Of male strippers, elephants and sheepdogs

Blind, we were. Blind, we were. Blind, we were. What is missing from Saturday night? we used to answer "Ballet" or "Chess". But of course, what we lacked in our entertainment was the male arse in full flourish — a deficiency now made good by ITV's *The Bare Necessities*, the first example of prime-time skin drama aimed at the Chippendale crowd. That the Chippendale crowd are probably out at clubs on Saturdays is a point that was perhaps not fully considered when this pilot was scheduled. But for the sake of chess-and-ballet fans who watch telly on Saturdays, Ken (September Song) Blakeson has written a larky tale to show us what we are missing. Five miners relinquish their hard hats when their pit closes, and then take heart. A new career beckons! Get those trousers off! And don't forget your best friend, if you'll pardon the expression.

*The Bare Necessities* was skilfully, busily directed, and it certainly had shock value. Whether the calendar close-ups of socked-off Y-fronts were an acceptable substitute for plot and characterisation depends entirely on whether you want your sexuality prodded in such an obvious way. Sorry to sound ungrateful, but the target female audience for *The Bare Necessities* does not include anyone I know personally. I remember when *The Times* sent me to review the first night of the Chippendales (shrieks! screams!), and a stripper came on stage in a white naval uniform, to the theme-song from *An Officer and a Gentleman*. The crowd went barmy. "Who's he supposed to be?" I shouted, mystified, to my friend Susan. She shrugged. "Prince Philip?" she shouted back.

If *The Bare Necessities* becomes a series, it will be required to include a weekly ten minutes of

pelvic thrusts, or the punters will hurl cocktail umbrellas at the screen. It's a funny old world beneath the overalls. On their first, impromptu stage appearance at the social club, the BNs strutted their stuff in an audience of women in the audience cried "I know those underpants! I know those underpants!" — which was a bit odd, really, when she had other clues to go on, such as her husband's otherwise naked body. By contrast, consider the speed and accuracy of contestants on *Pets Win Prizes* when asked to identify their hamster's bottom.

A subplot in *The Bare Necessities* entailed an unlovable bully called Big Vinny (John Forgan), a bejewelled miner who taunted his less fortunate friends, and gave them the sack from his new (unbelievable) leisure centre project. He never exactly shone his nails on his lapel

## REVIEW



Lynne Truss

but you know the type. Finally, the miners got their appropriate revenge. Would Vinny be buried alive in a shaft? No, he received a penis instead! He was forced to strip naked and then abused. "We'd love to take you on, Vinny, but I don't think you've got the equipment."

Which was why, perhaps. Sunday's new series of *The Natural*

World (BBC2) came as such a relief. It concerned a family of elephants in Kenya's Amboseli National Park, and after a weekend of weary willy-jokes in such comedies as *Cyberia* and *Jo Brand's Channel 4*, it sort of the genital supremacy issue once and for all. When a male elephant is in "must", he does not need to play a Tom Jones record. In fact, I wonder why *Kiss* turned up quite so many times in *The Bare Necessities*. Was it to squeeze maximum value out of the royalty payment?

Back on the African plains, however, *Echo and the Elephants* was a superb natural history programme, filmed over a four-year period, concerning a family led by Echo (enormous cross-tusked matriarch) and her immediate relations, all named with an "E". In no time at all, one's heart went out to Edwin, who broke her leg running away from a rampant

bull. Little Eli had trouble with his legs, too. And baby Ebony slithered on the ground in her own after-birth, trying cutely to stand on her feet. Park-dweller Cynthia Moss has studied these elephants for 20 years, and is responsible for the names. "Ebony" seemed an odd choice (the elephant is grey), but perhaps she was fed up.

While the daylit landscape was glorious — time-lapse clouds drifting across emerald grassland (and so on) — the most extraordinary scenes were shot at night with special cameras, in shades of grey. The birth of Ebony took place in this thrilling, murky — a secret, intimate occasion, with the other elephants milling and huffing, excited, trumpeting. It was brilliant stuff. And it seems that elephant families always take an interest in each other's sex lives. When the young Edwin had her

first sexual encounter, her mother was alongside throughout. She taught her how to trumpet. "See you next week, then?" or whatever is the elephantian equivalent. One thing we won't see next week is *One Man and His Dog* (BBC2), which reached feverish excitement on Saturday, when in the final a dog called Nap narrowly beat a dog called Bute, or possibly the other way around. "It's almost been overwhelming," said earnest Robin Page, all passion spent — and yes, "almost" was the word. Too many of the finalists, in fact, suffered the indignity of the jump-cut bar wiping the screen from left to right, to indicate a hiatus in the distant dog action, too humiliating to include. Viewers transported by the sheep-dog trials in the film *Babe* (stadium with cheering punters, hats in the air) will have wondered at the crowd of 30 shivering on a hill. But that's reality for you.

## BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (56047)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (23968912)
- 9.10 Kilroy, Discussion series (s) (2004573)
- 10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7340739) 10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (6241680)
- 10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick
- 12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (8387641)
- 12.05pm Pebble Mill. The guests include the singer Michael Ball (s) (9520047) 12.50 Regional News and weather (13220202)
- 1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (80405)
- 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (76151196)
- 1.55 Knots Landing (s) (1456573)
- 2.40 Wonders of the Wild. A tribute to the late Konrad Lorenz, who studied greyhounds for more than half a century (s) (7143680)
- 3.05 Timekeepers. Quiz (s) (5759757)
- 3.30 The Busy World of Richard Scarry (s) (8225737) 3.55 Dodger and Badger (s) (2077080) 4.10 Chippendales (s) (5812005) 4.35 The Gentle from Down Under. (Ceefax) (s) (9013757)
- 5.00 Newsround. (Ceefax) (4488979) 5.10 Blue Peter. (Ceefax) (s) (7622370)
- 5.35 Neighbours (s). (Ceefax) (s) (653283)
- 6.00 Sbs O'Clock News with Maryn Lewis and Jackie Bond. (Ceefax) Weather (641)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazines (221)
- 7.00 News Telly Years. Noel Edmonds's nostalgia quiz. Tonight's guests, Noddy Holder, Mary Peters, Cyril Smith and Lynsey de Paul, who all found fame in 1972, are asked questions about that year's headlines. (Ceefax) (s) (9196)
- 7.30 Watchdog. The Pet Trainer. Chris Choi and Sally Keen discuss the darker side of Britain's passion for pets. (Ceefax) (s) (405)
- 8.00 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (8844)
- 8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Time-travelling sitcom. (Ceefax) (s) (7979)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Peter Sissons. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (8688)
- 9.30 Panorama. An investigation into an epidemic in Britain of potentially lethal bacteria. (Ceefax) (962738)
- 10.10 Film 96 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed this week are *Leaving Las Vegas*, *Dangerous Minds*, *The Underneath* and *Mute Witness*. Plus an interview with Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond, the stars of *Sabrina*. (Ceefax) (s) (284015)
- 10.40 Film Omnibus: Through Many Dangers — the Story of Gospel Music (s) (8850912)
- 12.00am Film: You Talkin' to Me? (1987) starring Jim Youngs. A black comedy set in 1960s Hollywood about a failed method actor who transforms himself into a dumb blond. His new look attracts the attention of a racist television mogul and his attractive daughter. With James Noble, Mykel T. Williams and Faith Ford. Directed by Charles Winkler (s) (225158)
- 1.40 Weather (2223351)

**VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes**  
The numbers next to each TV programme give you Video PlusCodes, which allow you to programme your VCR to record a programme at a particular time. VideoPlus+ can be used with most VCRs. To use the Video PlusCodes for the programme you wish to record, enter the Video PlusCode on your VCR. For more information, see the Video PlusCodes on page 10 of the Times. VideoPlus+ is a registered trademark of VideoPlus+ Ltd. VideoPlus+ is a registered trademark of VideoPlus+ Ltd.

## BBC2

- 6.00am Business Matters (57689)
- 7.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (6348047)
- 7.15 Lassie (s) (3462825) 7.40 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (s) (7519080) 8.05 Blue Peter (s) (5581931)
- 8.30 Songs of Praise (s) (Ceefax) (s) (7329991)
- 9.05 Techno (s) (6334680) 9.25 Pathways of Belief: Christianity (s) (6260582) 9.40 Square One (s) (1300050)
- 10.00 Playdays (s) (8240031) 10.25 Holbein: Polish House (s) (7408115) 10.45 Look and Read: Spivish (s) (4456562)
- 11.05 Zig Zag (s) (8324414) 11.25 Technology Starters (s) (8719560)
- 11.40 English Times: The Ancient Mariner (s) (5495196) 12.00 The English Collection (s) (45757)
- 12.30pm Working Lunch (73028) 1.00 History File (s) (42368406) 1.20 Portrait of Europe (s) (66786252)
- 1.40 Storytime (s) (84304960) 2.00 Joshua Jones (s) (86718457)
- 2.10 FILM: Chance of a Lifetime (1990) starring Betty White. A widow with six months to live falls in love. Directed by Jonathan Sanger (862486)
- 3.55 News (Ceefax) (5472467)
- 4.00 Today's the Day (s) (134) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (318)
- 5.00 Esther. A studio discussion on whether being nude gets people further in life than those who are courteous. (s) (2842)
- 5.30 The Village. Day-to-day life in a Hampshire village. (825554)
- 5.55 Turning Points. Verity Lambert. (387399)
- 6.00 Space Precinct. Futuristic police drama. (Ceefax) (s) (806450)
- 6.45 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century. Sci-fi adventures with Gil Gerard. (s) (133641)
- 7.30 Hidden Empire: Catch-a-Fire. In 1981, century James, Paul Boggs determined to lead his countrymen to freedom from white rule. (Ceefax) (s) (937)
- 8.00 Horizon: Fermat's Last Theorem. (Ceefax) (s) (303844)
- 8.50 Trade Secrets. Saville Row tailors impart secrets of their trade. (Ceefax) (238450)



Saga about four Georgies (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Our Friends in the North. (Ceefax) (s) (1896080)
- 10.15 The Travel Show Essential Guides. Weekend breaks in Paris, Prague and Rome (revised) (s) (758252)
- 10.30 Newsnight. (727912)
- 11.15 The Brains Trust. Mary Ann Sieghart of *The Times* is joined by Richard Dawkins, Ben Ciol, Lisa Jardine and Paul Helm to discuss viewers' questions. (s) (861283)
- 11.55 Weather (514405)
- 12.00 The Midnight Hour (52142)
- 12.30am-7.00 The Learning Zone

## CHOICE

**Our Friends in the North**  
BBC2, 9.00pm  
Peter Flannery's drama cycle is no less than a history of Britain from the 1960s to the present day as reflected in the lives of four friends from the North East. They are played by Christopher Eccleston from *Cracker*, Daniel Craig, Mark Strong and Gina McKee. Each of the nine episodes covers a key year, starting in 1964 when the quartet are teenagers in Newcastle. We meet them as they are falling in love and out of love and struggling to find their way in the general election. Local government corruption is an early theme, with a council leader clearly based on the fallen Labour city boss, T. Dan Smith. Flannery's project is bold and ambitious, but the quality of the writing and casting and the attention to period detail suggest that a highly promising start will be maintained.

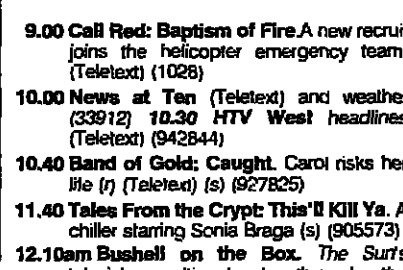
**Cutting Edge: Sexual Harassment**  
Channel 4, 9.00pm  
A psychologist puts it down to men unable to relate to women in the workplace. Perhaps it is simply male chauvinism by another name. Whatever the reason behind sexual harassment, this film claims that it affects men in three out of four in Britain. The programme highlights four cases in which women took their grievances to an industrial tribunal, with varying results. Complaining, the film makes all too clear, is not a simple matter. Among the allegedly harassed is an airline pilot who says she was sacked because she refused to respond to her chief's sexual demands. Generally, she says her male colleagues refused to accept that she could do the job. A comedian with blatantly sexist patter provides a ghastly running commentary. It rather spoils the thrust of the film that the women in the audience seem to laugh as loudly as the men.

**Horizon: Fermat's Last Theorem**  
BBC2, 8.00pm  
As a ten-year-old Andrew Wiles came across a mathematical puzzle that had baffled the best brains for 300 years and set his mind on solving it. Years later, as Professor Wiles of Princeton University, he got his chance. Pierre de Fermat was a French mathematician in the 17th century. His theorem was a development of Pythagoras's equation, familiar to schoolchildren, for right-angled triangles. The challenge for Wiles was to prove how Fermat got there. It happily needs no special knowledge of mathematics to follow an extraordinary story of obsession. For seven years Wiles worked in virtual seclusion, telling nobody about his progress except his wife and family. He finally made his findings public at a symposium in Cambridge, England. But even then a crucial gap remained.

**Omnibus: Through Many Dangers**  
BBC1, 10.40pm  
A documentary from the United States traces, in as much detail as most British viewers can want, the history of American gospel music. Dispensing with a commentary, the programme uses writers and academics to illuminate a rich selection of archive and contemporary film. The strength of the project is to put the music in its wider social and cultural setting. It shows how gospel arose as an unlikely blend of African slave songs and Methodist hymns. From then on the story embraces much of the history of black America, from the slave trade to the struggle for civil rights. The film also shows how, not without controversy, singers such as Mahalia Jackson, Rosetta Tharpe and Aretha Franklin took gospel out of the churches and into the mainstream of popular music. Peter Waymark

## HTV

- 6.00am GMTV (2808844)
- 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (4351738) 9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6227080)
- 10.00 The Time... The Place (s) (1008776)
- 10.35 This Morning (57245486) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6383625)
- 12.30 ITN News (Teletext) Weather (6697047)
- 12.55 Shortland Street (Teletext) (9656641)
- 1.20 Coronation Street (s). (Teletext) (5225912) 1.50 Home and Away (76154283)
- 2.20 Chain Letters. (Teletext) (s) (18030931)
- 2.50 Simply Delicious with Family and Friends (4534757)
- 3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (2279931)
- 3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2278022)
- 3.30 Rainbow Days (s) (2005689) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (763912) 3.50 Disney's Goofy (7639196) 4.00 Scooby Doo (2812263)
- 4.15 Harry's Mad (Teletext) (s) (544950)
- 4.45 Art Attack (Teletext) (s) (9004009)
- 5.10 The List. Entertainment guide (s) (57912)
- 5.40 ITN News (Teletext) Weather (446808)
- 5.40 Home and Away (s) (Teletext) (658028)
- 6.25 HTV News (752689)
- 7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers with Philip Schofield and Emma Forbes (s) (7592)
- 7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (573)
- 8.00 World in Action. Concluding the two-part investigation into Marks & Spencer (Teletext) (s) (3821)
- 8.30 The Paranormal World of Paul McKenna. The hypnotist continues to explore unexplained phenomena (Teletext) (s) (2047)



Adam Levy as Sam Kline (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Call Red: Baptism of Fire. A new recruit joins the helicopter emergency team (Teletext) (1028)
- 10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (33912) 10.30 HTV West headlines (Teletext) (942844)
- 10.40 Band of Gold: Caught. Carol risks her life (Teletext) (s) (927825)
- 11.40 Tales From the Crypt: This'll Kill Ya. A thriller starring Sonia Braga (s) (905573)
- 12.10am Bushell on the Box. The Stars television (s) (3821) trends through the schedules (5297987)
- 12.40 Endsleigh League Extra (2048177)
- 1.25 The Crime Hour. Introduced by John Stalker and Mary Nightingale (2110264)
- 2.20 Jones and the Jury. Star Jones interrogates both parties involved in actual legal disputes (9741023)
- 2.45 FILM: The Silent Woman (1988). A thriller starring Marie Christine Barau, Veronica Genest and Pierre Clementi (261974) 4.15 Night Bites (s) (906808)
- 4.30 The Time... The Place (s) (s)
- 5.00 An Invitation to Remember. Sir Michael Hordern talks about his career (s) (35516)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (57687)

## HTV WALES

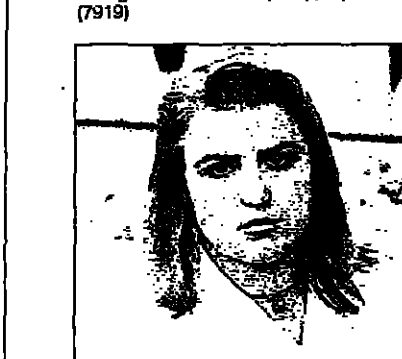
- As HTV West except:
  - 5.10-5.40 Ready News (6157912)
  - 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (617931)
- WESTCOUNTRY**
- As HTV West except:
  - 12.55 Chain Letters (6672738)
  - 1.25 Coronation Street (32024283)
  - 1.55 Home and Away (76154283)
  - 2.55 Gardeners' Diary (18008950)
  - 2.55-3.20 High Road (4534757)
  - 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6157912)
  - 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (76573)
  - 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News (942844)
- CENTRAL**
- As HTV West except:
  - 12.55 Home and Away (6672738)
  - 1.25 Chain Letters (32024283)
  - 1.55 A Country Practice (64367263)
  - 2.20-3.20 Blue Heelers (3132080)
  - 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6157912)
  - 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (617931)
  - 11.40 World Championship Boxing (700405)
  - 1.25am Bushell on the Box (3316607)
  - 2.50 FILM: South Riding (8070351)
  - 4.20 Jobfinder (2495687)
  - 5.20 Asian Eye (3730784)
- MERIDIAN**
- As HTV West except:
  - 12.55-1.25 Chain Letters (6672738)
  - 1.25 Home and Away (32024283)
  - 1.55 A Country Practice (76154283)
  - 2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (5792641)
  - 5.10 Home and Away (6157912)
  - 6.00 Meridian Tonight (739)
  - 6.30-7.00 Country Ways (689)
  - 11.40 The Shape of Things (905573)
  - 5.00am Freetext (35516)

## S4C

- Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (70028)
- 9.00 Fifteen to One (50888)
- 9.30 Schools (57080)
- 10.20 Right to Reply (30825)
- 12.30pm Camberwick Green (68196)
- 1.00 Slot Meltham: Caffi Sall Mail (73115)
- 1.30 Crawshaws Sketching and Drawing Course (67467)
- 2.00 FILM: What Price Glory? (1641)
- 4.00 Backdate (202)
- 4.30 Gardens Without Borders: Costa Verde/Costa Brava (486)
- 5.00 5 Pump: Round a Round (3089660)
- 5.15 5 Pump: Fidd (4450196)
- 5.30 Countdown (738)
- 6.00 Newyddion (180270)
- 6.15 Heno (533467)
- 7.00 Pobl Y Cwm (937738)
- 7.25 Y Byd Ar Bedwar (185641)
- 8.00 Joni Jones: Yr Ithawls (1554)
- 8.30 Newyddion (7919)
- 9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet: The Return of the Seven (2370)
- 10.00 Sgorio (568937)
- 11.05 Roseanne (308486)
- 11.35 Myra Hindley - a Life Sentence (709776)
- 12.35am-1.35 Divine Magic: The Power of Voodoo (3884121)
- 4.00 Schools (7688652)

## SHANNEL 5

- 6.35am Think Tank (s) (Teletext) (s) (588009)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (70028)
- 9.00 Fifteen to One (s) (Teletext) (s) (50888)
- 9.30 Schools: Geography (3492196) 9.45 Book Box (3420879) 10.00 Stage Two Language (7490196) 10.15 Learn Sign Language (4545000) 10.30 The Food and People (7494912) 10.40 The English Programme (7969370) 11.05 Encyclopaedia Galactica (9564467) 11.15 The Mix (8715844) 11.30 Rai-A-Tai-Tai (5400028) 11.45 Technology (548263)
- 12.00 Crawshaws' Sketching and Drawing Course (s) (30825) 12.30pm Sesame Street (62979) 1.30 Woeser (s) (7617734) 1.55 St Ives (s) (s) (64394573)
- 2.15 FILM: The Prisoner of Shark Island (1936 b/w). The true story of a doctor, William Mudd (played by Warner Baxter), who, after treating President Lincoln's assassin, was sentenced to life on Shark Island, a notoriously harsh prison. Directed by John Ford (Teletext) (688828)
- 4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (202) 4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (486)
- 5.00 Love in the Afternoon (s) (4405)
- 6.00 The Cosby Show (s) (Teletext) (979)
- 6.30 Hollyhocks. Phil Redmond's Chester-le-Strain soap. (Teletext) (s) (831)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (Teletext) (942496) 7.55 The Sky (265047)
- 8.00 Scrambling Reels. Nick Fraser meets Bob Nudd, world champion angler, in St Katharine's Dock, London, where they demonstrate that the Thames is full of fish as they reel in carp, bream, roach and eels. (Teletext) (s) (1554)
- 8.30 Wild Birds. Bats, shrews, hedgehogs and dormice survive in hedgerows in spite of 1,000 years of agriculture that has changed the landscape (s) (Teletext) (7919)



Nicky Wicks took legal action (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Cutting Edge: Sexual Harassment. (Teletext) (s) (2370)
- 10.00 FILM: A Stranger Among Us (1992). Tagged as *Witness* with a twist, this is a thriller with Melanie Griffith as a hard cop, on the trail of a young Hasidic diamond cutter who has gone missing with gems worth nearly a million dollars and is then found dead. Directed by Sidney Lumet (Teletext) (s) (302738)
- 11.55 The Sexual Impulsive. Examines one of the most powerful driving forces in nature (s) (Teletext) (s) (797931)
- 12.55am FILM: The Veil of Bray (1937) b/w. Stanley Holloway stars as the Irish priest summoned to be tutor to the heir to the throne, only to find himself embroiled in the Civil War. Directed by Henry Edwards (764806)
- 2.05 Doing It with You Is... Taboo (s) (6821581) Ends at 3.05

## SKY NEWS

- For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday SKY ONE
- 7.00am X-Files (505888) 7.30 Crazy Cow (3938405) 7.45 Trap Door (3918941) 8.00 Power Rangers (80844) 8.30 Press Your Luck (169175) 9.00 CBS News (18115) 9.30 Oprah Winfrey (84955) 10.30 Concentration (54509) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (20409) 12.00 Jeopardy! (63931) 12.30am The Tonight Show (871070) 12.35am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 2.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 2.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 3.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 3.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 4.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 4.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 5.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 5.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 6.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 6.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 7.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 7.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 8.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 8.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 9.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 9.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 10.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 10.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 11.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 11.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 12.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 12.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 1.00am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 1.30am The Howard Stern Show (16577) 2.00am The Howard Stern 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## Fierce battle ahead to secure \$1bn BA order for 60 jets

BY CARL MORTIMED

BRITISH AIRWAYS has invited Airbus, Avro, Boeing, Fokker and McDonnell Douglas to tender to supply up to 60 new regional jet aircraft. The contract could be worth more than \$1 billion.

Competition from airframe and jet engine manufacturers will be fierce to secure the largest such tender issued by British Airways since 1991 when it ordered up to 30

Boeing 777 aircraft. The new aircraft will replace old planes and provide extra capacity on short-haul European routes for BA, as well as domestic routes for British Airways Regional, and domestic and international routes for Deutsche BA, the German carrier in which BA holds a 49 per cent stake.

BA said yesterday that quietness would be a key consideration in its choice. The company wants to replace its fleet of Boeing 737-200s.

These meet Chapter II noise regulations but BA wants its new generation of regional aircraft to exceed the more stringent Chapter III requirements and the tender document indicates that bidders must meet the highest noise standard. Many airports impose higher landing charges on noisy aircraft and BA indicated that hush-kitting some or all of the existing 737-200s was also an option.

Bob Ayling, the airline's chief executive, said that the tender was part of the long-term fleet acquisition programme and emphasised that BA would be working with its alliance partners, Deutsche BA and TAT, the French airline, to secure the best deal. "We are expecting substantial savings by buying in bulk."

BA is seeking a range of aircraft, to seat 80, 100 and 120 passengers. Competition at the smaller end of the range will pit British Aero-

space's Avro RJ85 and RJ100, the successor to its "Whisperjet", against the F100 and F70 of Fokker, the struggling Dutch manufacturer. McDonnell Douglas will bid its 100-seater MD95, while competitors for the supply of larger planes include Boeing, with its new 737 series 500 or 600, and Airbus, which can offer the A319.

Rolls-Royce, which has recently won a string of orders from South-East Asian airlines, could supply engines for the Fokker or McDon-

nell Douglas options. The new Boeing 737s are powered by CFMI engines, made by GE-Snecma, an option for the Airbus A319, which can also be powered with International Aero Engine's engine. The British Aerospace Avro jets are fitted with Allied Signal LS507 power plants.

Economies of scale suggest that BA would like a single supplier for the whole range of aircraft, issuing

30 firm orders with options on another 30. However, aircraft industry experts doubt that a single aircraft could fit the wide range of passenger configurations. Flying larger aircraft with fewer seats would reduce fuel efficiency and BA is prepared to split the order between manufacturers.

BA is expected to make a decision this summer with delivery of firm orders required from January next year through to 1999.

RBS staff  
vote on  
strike plan

More than 2,000 Royal Bank of Scotland staff will begin voting today on whether to hold a series of one-day strikes over London allowances, which Bifu, the banking and finance union, claims have been frozen since 1990. It wants a 16 per cent increase on the three allowance bands.

## Target verdict

The Government will achieve its £30 billion consumer expenditure growth target this year only if an additional £7 billion from bank/building society takeovers and maturing Tassas is released into the general economy, says a new report from Verdict Research.

## City optimism

City fund managers from 83 institutions responsible for £880 billion of funds are more optimistic about the outlook for the UK economy over the next year, according to Merrill Lynch's latest Gallup survey published today. Some 80 per cent of the managers polled expect an improvement in the UK's fortunes against 73 per cent in December.

## Media plan

Dealings in Media, the publishing and media group, are due to start on January 29. The company will today issue the pathfinder prospectus for its flotation. The £20 million raised will be used to buy Video Arts Group and Marshall Information.

City Diary, page 37

Knight calls for urgency  
over pensions scandal

BY ROBERT MILLER

A SENIOR Treasury Minister yesterday called on all parties involved in the £4 billion pensions mis-selling scandal to work together more closely to achieve "a just and fair" settlement for the one million-plus investors who may have received bad advice.

Many cases involve nurses, miners, teachers, local authority workers, firemen and police officers wrongly advised to leave generous occupational schemes, or not join in the first place, as were others in company schemes.

Tomorrow, the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog that instigated the mis-selling review more than two years ago, will publish a progress report. This will acknowledge the slippage of deadlines, which should have seen compensation payments made to the most urgent cases by the end of last year. Very few have received any redress.

Individual compensation payments to reinstate victims to the position they were in before they took out the personal plans range from £500 to more than £100,000.

Angela Knight, the Treasury Minister responsible for City regulation, told *The Times* that pension providers, independent financial advisers and watchdogs had a duty to ensure that long-running disputes should be resolved as speedily as possible.

Many of the battles have revolved around responsibility for the mis-selling and

who should foot the bill. Mrs Knight was speaking after the GMB, Britain's largest general union, wrote to her and to Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Colette Bowe, chief executive of the Personal Investment Authority, the watchdog for firms that sell direct to the public. The PIA has set up a special pensions unit, headed by Joanne Hindle, to oversee the industry-wide personal pensions mis-selling review.



Clarke: letter from GMB

In his letter to Ms Bowe, Bill Day, the GMB's national pensions officer, called on the PIA to issue new guidance or even rules to members to ensure that no potential case of personal pension mis-selling is "time-barred". This is a legal limitation period, which means that cases from more than six years ago may not be considered unless legal writs have been issued and served.

Mr Day continued: "We believe that investors who have potentially been victims

of pensions mis-selling should be entitled to seek and obtain independent advice about the nature and quantum of any compensation, which they may, or may not, be offered. It is wholly inappropriate that investors should have to entirely depend on advice from the same provider who got things so badly wrong in the first place."

The GMB letters follow a successful court case in Bristol last week when the union, together with the Royal College of Nursing, won the right for their members to pursue individual companies through the courts, including the Prudential, TSB, Hill Samuel, Irish Life and GAN Life, rather than being bound by the PIA review system. The landmark ruling could add hundreds of millions of pounds to the estimated £4 billion compensation and costs bill, which the industry will have to foot.

Mr Day has again called on the Government to run an advertising campaign "to fully inform the public that they may well have been victims of mis-selling and that remedies are available". Mrs Knight said the points raised in the letter would receive full consideration: "We have already made it easier for those who belonged to government schemes to come back in if they want to."

A senior SIB source said last night that most of the complex review problems had been solved and matters should proceed more quickly. Privately, City watchdogs have warned their members that failure to comply with the review could result in disciplinary action, including fines.



Angela Knight: "just and fair" settlement necessary

British Gas presses for  
a profit-share price cap

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH GAS is pressing for a profit-share clause in the next regulatory price cap on TransCo, its core subsidiary, which runs Britain's gas pipeline system.

Under proposals expected to be tabled by the company in talks with Ofgas, TransCo would hand back half of any "excess" profit, potentially amounting to tens of millions of pounds, to be passed on via price cuts to consumers.

Details of the proposals, revealed to *The Times*, coincide with alarm among consumer organisations that the Government may take powers to impose a levy on consumers to help British Gas overcome anticipated losses on its £40 billion worth of take-or-pay gas purchase contracts.

The TransCo profit proposal is designed to help British Gas pre-empt charges that it is making excess profits and could help to restore public esteem for a business tarnished by a string of public

relations disasters. The proposals are also likely to find favour with both Clare Spottiswoode, the industry regulator, and the Government.

The discussions between Ofgas and TransCo to shape a formula to cap the profits from its £18 billion pipeline system are scheduled to be held soon. The current formula, which limits gas transport charges to movements in the retail prices



Spottiswoode: welcome likely

index, minus 5 per cent, expires in July 1997.

TransCo wants an inflation-based price cap that should allow scope for a real pre-tax return on new capital investment of 7.4 per cent to 8.9 per cent, up from the 6.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent allowed on new investment under the present formula.

The company is also allowed a return of 4.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent on existing assets. In total, these arrangements allow it to make profits of £700 million a year. Under the proposals now being drawn up, TransCo would like the price cap to set a range of acceptable returns. But if profits exceed the maximum, half of the cash would be returned to customers the following year. Should returns fall below the range, it would like to claw back half of the shortfall in higher charges the following year.

Gas levy, page 38

## Hands go up for time change

BY PHILIP BASSETT

BRITISH business overwhelmingly supports plans to switch to Western European time, according to new evidence today from the Confederation of British Industry.

Parliament has before it a private members' Bill that proposes to bring UK time into line with Europe. This has met with considerable opposition in Scotland, which is likely to be most affected.

In a survey of almost 1,200

of its member companies, the CBI reports 75 per cent want Britain to make a full move to Western European time. Such a step would mean moving clocks on hour ahead, making it light one hour later in the evenings and mornings darker one hour later. A full move to Western European time would mean that in winter Britain would work to what is now British summer time, and in summer to double current BST — current summer time, plus one hour.

UK business leaders believe Britain suffers heavily because its time frame is mostly out of line, a factor that makes contacts, deals and other European business negotiations needlessly more difficult.

In the south of England, 84 per cent of businesses surveyed were in favour. 75 per cent in Wales and Midlands and 70 per cent in the north and northern Ireland. Firms in Scotland were 72 per cent against, with 28 per cent in favour.

Granada and  
Forte slug it out  
as fight nears  
final round

BY MELVYN MARCUS, CITY EDITOR

SIR Rocco Forte, chairman of Forte, and Gerry Robinson, chairman designate of Granada, continued their corporate slugging match over the weekend as the £3.8 billion takeover battle rumbled towards its finale, scheduled for a week tomorrow.

The message from Sir Rocco was that shareholders should question Granada's claim that it can improve Forte's profits by more than £100 million "regardless of which business Granada decides to keep and regardless of the level of profitability which Forte intends to achieve".

Sir Rocco claimed that Granada had noted the "buoyant market conditions" and "enormous opportunity" the company's businesses provide. He added: "Who is best placed to capitalise on this opportunity, Forte, with its network of more than 270 hotels, or Granada, owner of just three hotels?"

According to Sir Rocco: "Forte has already achieved significant cost savings, with more to come, but Granada's emphasis on short-term cost-cutting is not a recipe for long-term growth. Our proposals provide much greater certainty than Granada's still-tenacious claims about its ability to manage Forte's business and improve its profitability."

Mr Robinson challenged Forte's directors to justify their policy of selling the company's restaurant and budget hotel operations to Whitbread, while retaining up-market hotels.

His message was: "Forte is proposing to sell those businesses which potentially have the highest growth rates, whilst being the least vulnera-

ble to an economic downturn. These are the very businesses which protected Forte's profits in the last recession. They are also cash generators: the engine room of the business."

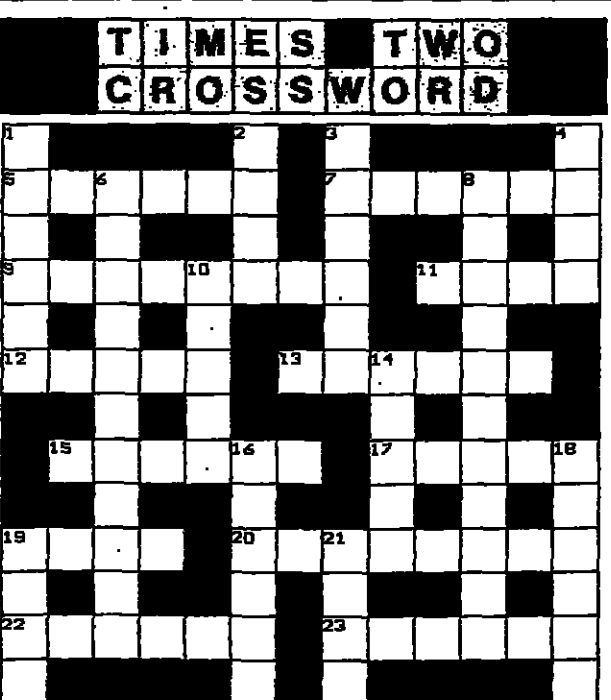
Mr Robinson claimed that "New Forte" will be over-exposed to a sector of the hotel market that is "highly cash consumptive, vulnerable to a downturn in the economy and offers a poor return on investment even in buoyant times". He added: "By putting all its eggs in this particular basket, Forte will create an unbalanced and more volatile company which will significantly increase the risks for shareholders."

Granada's chief argued that "New Forte's" interest cover would be only three times, while dividend cover would be less than two. This, he said, contrasted with interest cover of eight for Granada/Forte — assuming the sale of the Exclusive and Meridian hotel chains — and four in the absence of such disposals.

Attacking Granada's claim that it will achieve additional profits of £100 million from Forte's operations, Forte states that Granada's estimates are based on a "fundamental misunderstanding of Forte's operational structure". Forte emphasises that its management structure is "totally distinct from the holding company approach adopted by Granada and many other conglomerates".

Mr Robinson retorted: "Forte's disbelief that its profits can be improved so much sums up the whole essence of the company's poor performance."

City Diary, page 37



No 678

## ACROSS

- 5 Incompetent (6)
- 7 Rush-hour short-cut (3-3)
- 9 Heavy, revolving regulator device (8)
- 11 Tiny fragment of material, cloud (4)
- 12 Deride, jeer at (5)
- 13 Calculate, think (6)
- 15 Small boring tool (6)
- 17 Colourless spirit (5)
- 19 Malt/hops drink (4)
- 20 Greek philosopher, took hemlock (8)
- 22 (Thread for) surgical stitching (6)
- 23 Serious, reverent (6)

## DOWN

- 1 Nursery-rhyme Miss's low seat (6)
- 2 Alot, distribute (4)
- 3 Partition grating (6)
- 4 Break: card game (4)
- 6 Jacques/Touchstone play (2,3,4,2)
- 8 Justification of existence (6,5)
- 10 Commercial lodging (5)
- 14 Insurance protection; place setting (5)
- 16 Spring festival (6)
- 18 Say yes (6)
- 19 Centre of operations; despicable (4)
- 21 Loss, expenditure (4)

## SOLUTION TO No 677

ACROSS: 1 Diarrhoea 5 Plug 9 Serum 10 Avocado 11 Impasse 12 Treat 13 Yesterday 15 April 20 Wastrel 22 Partner 23 Apage 24 Rind 25 Adjacent

DOWN: 1 Disail 2 Atrophy 3 Remus 4 Brave New World 6 Leave 7 Growth 8 Wombed 14 Sliding 15 Yardage 16 Hamper 17 Florent 19 Huron 21 Scala

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Five years on, ex-President reveals Gulf War anxieties

# Bush feared Iraqi troops would withdraw too soon

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

GEORGE BUSH, the former American President, admits this week that he was immensely relieved President Saddam Hussein did not withdraw his troops voluntarily from Kuwait before the outbreak of the Gulf War in January 1991.

With the build-up of half a million American troops and hundreds of bombers and fighter planes in neighbouring Saudi Arabia, a last-minute withdrawal of Iraqi soldiers would have been "the worst of all possible worlds", Mr Bush says.

Disclosures by the former President about his anxieties during the Gulf War come on the eve of the fifth anniversary of the start of the American-led coalition air campaign against Iraq on the night of January 16-17.

Interviewed by Sir David Frost, in a programme to be screened in America tomorrow, Mr Bush says: "If he'd pulled out totally from Kuwait and left his forces along the border, we would have been in a terrible bind."

He says the US and its coalition partners would have had to keep a large force in Kuwait, but American public and congressional support would have evaporated.

He tells Sir David in the interview, recorded on December 12: "I worried that at the last minute he [Saddam] would pull out of there. We

gave peace a chance. We tried to get him to do that. But as you look back on it now, that would have been the worst of all possible worlds."

Last week, Baroness Thatcher criticised Western political leaders for failing to force Saddam to accept formal surrender when the war came to an end. Interviewed for a four-part BBC documentary on the war, she said this failure had enabled the Iraqi leader to

dad. "There's a moral imperative here, and I don't think the United States, nor the United Kingdom, nor France, measure the extent of their victory by an increased body count," he says.

Mr Bush also discloses how he stopped the Israelis from entering the war after Iraq fired Scud ballistic missiles at Tel Aviv. The Israelis approached the United States because they wanted to overfly

aside that premise that, if somebody hits them, they're going to hit them back."

Last night, in the third part of the BBC's documentary, *The Gulf War*, General Colin Powell, the former Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, disclosed that there was a plan to bomb Iraq's dams on the Tigris and Euphrates if Saddam had attacked with chemical and biological weapons. General Powell said this would have caused enormous destruction and loss of life.

However, Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, had been warned in a meeting with James Baker, then the US Secretary of State, that the Americans would exact a terrible price if chemical weapons were used. The Iraqis believed this meant America would retaliate with nuclear weapons, and the threat had the desired effect.

Mr Bush says this week that he never seriously contemplated using nuclear weapons.

Contract contest: Britain and France are in close competition to sell missiles for Kuwait's French-made patrol boats. Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, was in Kuwait at the weekend to try to persuade the emirate to buy British Aerospace's Sea Skua missiles to equip eight P37 boats. The French are trying to sell MM15 missiles produced by Aerospatiale.

## All hell would have broken loose if the Israelis had been allowed to retaliate for the Scud attacks

remain in power. Mr Bush admits in his television interview that he regretted not ending the war with a "clean" surrender. He says, however, that he has no such regrets about ending the coalition's ground campaign on February 28, 1991, four days after it had been launched, because of the fear of rising casualties among the fleeing Iraqi forces.

He says the mission to end Iraqi aggression had been accomplished. The US military felt confident that the Iraqi war machine was sufficiently damaged, and the coalition would have been split by a decision to chase the Republican Guards to Bagh-

Saudi Arabia and Jordan to mount retaliatory raids. Mr Bush says: "We knew what kind of reaction that would bring in the Arab world if we had given them permission to do that. So we denied them the codes." The United States told the Israelis that, without the codes, their planes would be exposed to the threat of "friendly fire". He says: "They did not like that."

Mr Bush adds that "all hell would have broken loose" if the Israelis had retaliated. "We would have an instant shattering of this diverse coalition. And they knew that, too. And so we had to lean on them very hard to get them to lay



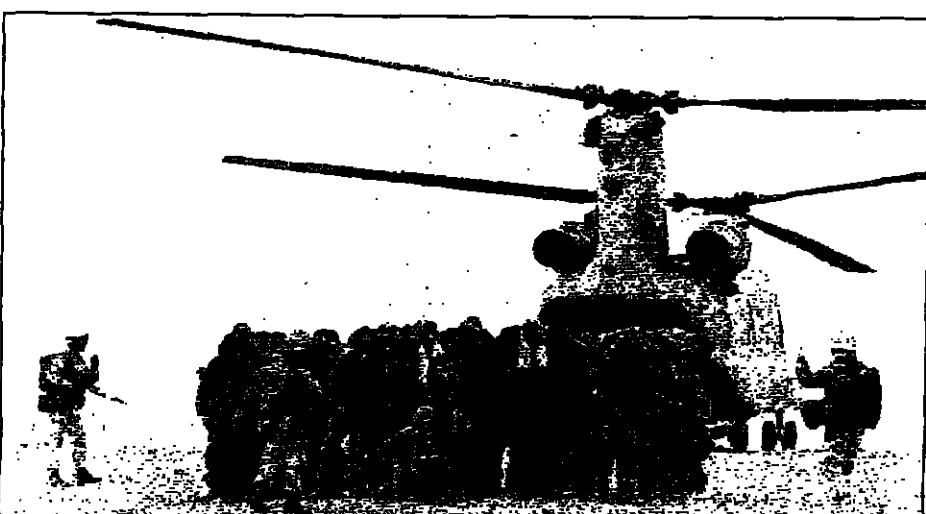
Yigal Amir, right, Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, consults a lawyer, Mordechai Ofri, in court in Tel Aviv yesterday

## Politician 'sought blessing for Rabin's killing'

Tel Aviv: A prominent Israeli politician tried to help Yitzhak Rabin's assassin to get rabbinical approval for the murder, a defence lawyer claimed yesterday. Moshe Meroz made his accusation at a court hearing for Yigal Amir, his brother Hagai, and a third alleged conspirator, Dror Adani. Yigal Amir's trial for the

murder of the Israeli Prime Minister is due to start on January 23. Hagai Amir and Mr Adani are charged with conspiring with Yigal Amir to kill Rabin and attack Palestinians. Their trial was adjourned until April 17. Mr Meroz, who represents Hagai Amir, refused to name the politician. Yigal Amir said after the

killing at a November 4 peace rally that it was justified by Jewish law. (AP) Gaza City: Palestinian police have captured members of the radical Abu Nidal group who were preparing an assassination and bombing campaign against the autonomous territories, officials said yesterday. (AFP)



Allied soldiers guarding Iraqi prisoners during the Gulf War five years ago

## Saddam's defiant survival frustrates regretful West

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

THE anniversary this week of the start of the Gulf War provides a salutary reminder that, five years after the allies began pounding Baghdad with "smart" bombs and high-tech missiles, Iraq remains unfinished business for the American-led coalition that forced its retreat from Kuwait.

Far from being driven from power, President Saddam Hussein continues to order his state-controlled media to crow over what the daily *al-Qadisiya* claimed yesterday was his victory in "the mother of all battles". Only last week he was described in an intelligence report to the Israeli Cabinet as being in charge of a "stable" regime.

Although Iraq has been impoverished by continuing United Nations sanctions, most of its corrupt ruling elite have been cushioned from the worst effects, and there are still those who believe that Baghdad is secretly trying to put together some form of chemical or biological weapons programme.

The UN estimates that Iraq bought 39 tonnes of growth media before the 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Each tonne can yield ten tonnes of bacteriological weapons, and mi-

crobes causing deadly diseases such as anthrax have a long shelf life. Seventeen tonnes, enough to kill up to 60 million people, remain unaccounted for, a factor made all the more worrying by Jordan's interception last November of \$25 million (£16 million) of Russian-made missile components, which were heading illegally for Baghdad.

Saddam's regime, which bolsters its rule by barbaric punishments such as the amputation of ears and hands and the branding of foreheads to prevent army desertions and to minimise the escalating crime figures, refuses to say who supplied the machinery, components, chemicals and biological precursors.

The Iraqi President continues to insist that Rolf Ekeus, the Swedish head of the UN Special Commission charged with overseeing the postwar destruction of Iraq's weapons programmes, should accept verbal assurances that the arms and warheads have been destroyed.

When the war ended with the ignominious flight of booty-laden Iraqi troops from the oil-rich emirate, which it con-

tinues to claim as its "19th province", it was widely expected that tough UN ceasefire conditions would force Saddam to co-operate with the international community or provoke his overthrow. Neither has happened.

Western hopes of the imminent downfall of "the Butcher of Baghdad" were again boosted last August by the damaging defection to Jordan of his influential son-in-law, Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel, his brother, and their wives. However, the defections only confirmed the hopeless divisions between exiled opposition groups.

"The bottom line is that we did not win the Gulf War," said Laurie Mylroie, a leading Iraq expert. "We are in a state of self-imposed delusion because Saddam is making revenge." Ms Mylroie, based in the United States, is one of a growing number of analysts calling for a shift in American policy. She says that it is now time to try actively to overthrow Saddam.

A Cairo-based diplomat said: "With every year that passes, the regrets are growing that we did not finish the job when there was an opportunity."

## Crew adrift for 21 days

Dubai: Seven crew members adrift in a boat for three weeks in the Indian Ocean have been rescued after American military planes spotted them and radioed their location to a merchant ship, the US Navy said yesterday.

The crew of the *Narjevan* had been adrift for 21 days, all but one of them without food stocks, but were reported in good health after the *Pratishtha* picked them up and headed to the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai, naval officials said.

The *Narjevan* left Cochinda on December 20, and its engines made two days later. The crew then hoisted makeshift sails until a plane crew on the aircraft carrier *USS* *Intrepid* spotted them.

## Terracotta army was robbed 1,800 years ago

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

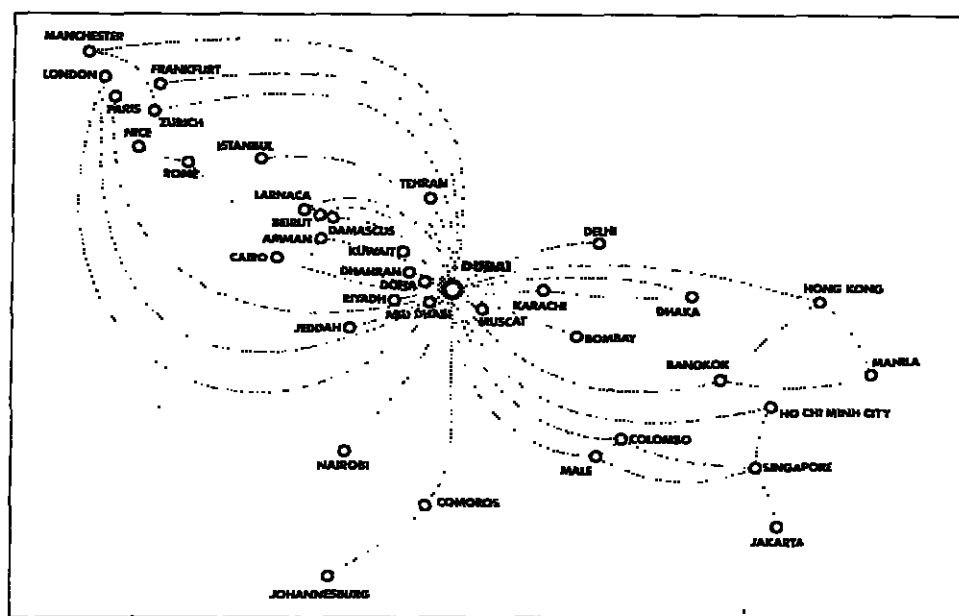
CHINESE archaeologists were not the first to discover the famous terracotta tomb warriors in 1974: 1,800 years ago robbers plundered the north China site for the gold and silver buried with the lifetime-baked clay statues which guard the tomb of Emperor Qin, near the modern city of Xi'an.

The discovery was made during a dig at the Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses. The museum was built over three pits full of terracotta warriors and horses, guards to the nether world for the first emperor of the Qin for the first emperor of the Qin dynasty. The new finds were made in the last of three pits excavated.

The 65,000 square foot pit and its beams, pillars, passages and doorways had been preserved relatively intact because it suffered little damage from a fire in the late Qin dynasty.

The archaeologists have also discovered warriors mounted on horseback, shooting warriors and a carriage with four warriors — the first carriage found — in the third pit, which is thought to contain the richest store of relics. Emperor Qin, credited with unifying China in 221BC, ruled with an iron fist until his death 11 years later. He built the Great Wall, but also buried scholars alive and burnt their books.

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# 'Elizabeth gets angry with Margaret, but family is all-important...

## Elizabeth's story



■ Today we continue our exclusive serialisation of *Elizabeth*, looking at the deep bond between the Queen and her sister: Princess Margaret the naughty little girl, the teenage attention-seeker, and finally the headstrong divorcee.



TOMORROW

■ The Queen's wardrobe: never an avid follower of fashion, she has developed her own distinctive style.

■ The private woman behind the monarch.

## Guilt, Margaret and marriage

The year 1960 had begun well for Elizabeth, not only because of the birth of Prince Andrew and the delight of having a baby in the nursery again, but also because the perennial problem of her sister's love life seemed to have come to a happy conclusion.

After the affair with Peter Townsend had ended, one by one all Margaret's male friends had married and by 1956 it seemed that only the archetypal chinless wonder, Billy Wallace, the millionaire son of one of George VI's wartime ministers, was left. He repeatedly asked the Princess to marry him, she finally consented as much out of the fear of finding herself left on the shelf at 26 as from any real desire to become Wallace's wife. Then, to her outrage, the foolish fellow had a fling on holiday in the Bahamas, neglected to tell his royal fiancée that he was home until she tracked him down, and then blurted out the truth to her. To his great and continuing surprise she threw him out. Margaret was on her own again.

Elizabeth felt as responsible for her sister as she had when they were both in the nursery at No 145 Piccadilly. Now that "us four" had become "us three" and the headship of the family had descended upon her, she felt even more responsible. Indulging Margaret had become a family tradition, even when she was behaving badly, as she often did. "Ever since the breach with Townsend," Tommy Lascelles told a friend, "the Princess has become selfish and hard and wild." She [Elizabeth] gets angry with her but family is all-important to her, and from that point of view Princess Margaret is one of the First Eleven," a friend said. Subconsciously jealous of her sister, Margaret was not above cocking the occasional snook at her even now that she

### RELATIONSHIPS CAUSE SORROW



So in love: Princess Margaret and Antony Armstrong-Jones

was Queen. Their relationship was much the same as it had been when they were children. At a picnic at Balmoral, Margaret might throw a dishcloth into her sister's face. One woman minister told Margaret's manner to Elizabeth "informal" to the point of coarseness.

After one state banquet at the Palace the women retired together as was the custom. The minister thought that the Queen looked particularly pretty in a gossamer evening dress, with the Garter ribbon

on a sash across the bodice, and complimented her upon it. Whereupon Margaret said to her sister: "Darling, that does show your bosom up too much."

In December, 1959, Antony Armstrong-Jones, a society photographer, and Margaret became privately engaged. The Queen Mother was told to her great delight, but it was not until January at Sandringham that Tony formally asked the Queen's permission.

Elizabeth was almost maternally delighted by her sister's

happiness, a joy undoubtedly tinged with relief that that difficult problem seemed to have been solved. The inescapable feeling of guilt which she had felt towards her sister since the Townsend affair was assuaged. News of the engagement was held back until after the birth of Prince Andrew.

In the early to mid-1960s the Snowdons were a popular, glamorous couple, undertaking numerous public engagements which reduced the pressure on Elizabeth. Both of them were indefatigable; so much so that *Private Eye* unkindly dubbed them "the two highest-paid performing dwarfs in Europe". In recognition of their growing family and their active royal role, Elizabeth gave them a larger 20-room apartment at Kensington Palace, No 1A. It had been unoccupied for some time and the bill for redecoration was estimated at £65,000, of which Elizabeth offered to pay £20,000 personally.

Elizabeth had always felt enormous sympathy for her sister, who could apparently never find her role in life. She understood the willfulness which was really the futile beating of wings against a wall, and she could not help feeling the contrast between her own position both as Queen and as a successful wife and mother, and her younger sister's distinctly rocky path. As the Snowdon marriage began to unravel she hoped against hope that her sister would not be left alone again. "It oughtn't to have gone wrong — there's still deep affection there now," a friend said.

The trouble, as their friends had diagnosed from the start, was that the two of them were too alike, almost the same person. Sometimes it works in a relationship, but in their case it didn't. "They had a showbusiness quality and when it worked it was sensational," Snowdon's friend, Jocelyn Stevens, said. "But when it didn't, there was an atmosphere you couldn't kick your way through." Margaret's cousin, the Earl of Lichfield, following in Snowdon's footsteps as a photographer, described them as "trading insults like sunbathers". They were both self-centred, devious, manipulative and capable of being sadistic.

For Elizabeth, the explosive state of her sister's marriage was a source of private worry and public concern. Margaret had a relationship with Robin Douglas-Home, the piano-playing nephew of the former Prime Minister, Sir Alec, and married to the model Sandra Paul; he later shot himself. Unambiguously, passionate letters written to him by the Princess surfaced in New York and were published by a foreign magazine. The word divorce was already in the air as far as the Snowdons themselves were concerned, but as yet it seemed unthinkable.

In private the Snowdons' marriage had deteriorated so much by the early 1970s that they led virtually separate lives. Snowdon would refuse to speak to his wife even in front of the children, would spy on her through a hole in the wall, and leave insulting notes in drawers where she would find them.

He reverted to his Bohemian life, often spending nights away from Kensington Palace. Margaret, constrained by her birth from retreating in kind, took refuge in her favourite whisky, Famous Grouse, and conspicuously put on weight. Wretchedly unhappy and increasingly frustrated, she seemed no longer to care about the effects of her behaviour on the public. Opponents of the monarchy and its cost, notably the Labour MP Willie Hamilton, made her the target of their criticism over the sensitive years during which the Palace was negotiating a



Such devoted sisters: the Queen greets her sister at an informal reception given by the Girl Guides Association in 1970

### MARGARET AND SNOWDON

- Princess Margaret Rose: born August 21, 1930, Glamis Castle.
- Lord Snowdon: born Antony Charles Robert Armstrong-Jones, March 7, 1930, London.
- First met: at a Chelsea dinner party given by Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, February 20, 1953.
- Married: May 6, 1960, Westminster Abbey.
- Divorced: May 24, 1978. Lord Snowdon subsequently married Mrs Lucy Lindsay-Hogg (formerly Lucy Davies), December 15, 1978.
- Children: Viscount Linley, b November 3, 1961; Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones (now Lady Sarah Chatto), b May 1, 1964.

... "The friend rang Elizabeth, who coolly told him: "Carry on with your house-party. Her bedroom is on the ground floor..."

Margaret's marriage was in its final throes. On returning from Mustique after her holiday there with Llewellyn, she had asked her husband to move out of their Kensington Palace apartment, but he remained there, although during that time he was to begin a relationship with the woman he was later to marry, Lucy Lindsay-Hogg. "There he was, living in my house, thinking

he could have a lovely affair," Margaret said. "I asked him for a separation but he laughed in my face. He was becoming a virtual stranger and we would meet on the stairs and growl at each other. And I had to go on behaving as if nothing was happening."

Unfortunately for Margaret and the Royal Family, events conspired to make her appear publicly as the guilty party. So far her relationship with Roddy Llewellyn had remained unknown to the general public although it was well known in royal and society

circles: she had been lucky to "get away with it" for so long. Early in 1976 the *News of the World* published what appeared to be an intimate photograph of the Princess and Roddy, in swimming costumes, sitting side by side at a beach bar in Mustique. The implications were obvious — the profligate Princess on holiday with her toyboy. The newspaper had cut out the Princess's friends, Viscount Cobbe and his wife Valeria, sitting opposite, but that fact was considered irrelevant.

The spotlight was now turned on Roddy and his unroyal way of life on a rural commune at Surrendell, a 47-acre farm in Wiltshire, where, it emerged, Margaret had not only lunched but also spent the night. Margaret had thoroughly enjoyed these excursions into a different world, but the image of a middle-aged, hippy princess mixing with upper-class drop-outs was not one which commended itself to the public. The photograph precipitated the public crisis in the Snowdon marriage which had been threatening for so long. On its publication Snowdon moved out; the advantage had been handed to

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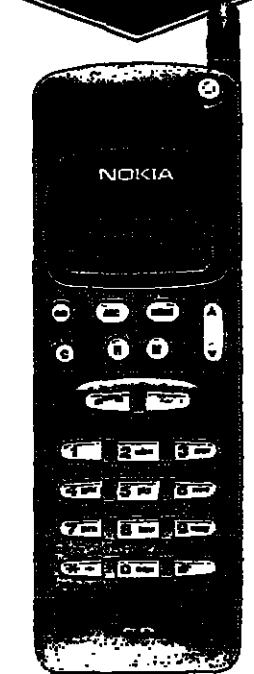
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...and from that point of view Margaret is one of the First Eleven'

# Childhood, the Queen and the naughty little sister

ELIZABETH AND MARGARET GROWING UP



Elizabeth and Margaret arrive at Ballater station in 1946 for a holiday at Balmoral

Elizabeth was four years and four months old when her sister, Margaret Rose, was born at Glamis on August 21, 1930. This time the fact that the new baby was not a boy caused disappointment. Margaret was an entirely opposite character to Elizabeth. She was extrovert, capricious, attention-seeking and naughty. One of her governesses said that she was the most difficult child she had ever had to teach. "Princess Elizabeth was always charming and unselfish," one of her mother's friends wrote. "Princess Margaret naughty but amusing."

Elizabeth was maternally protective of her sister and would never hear a word of criticism of her. Even when Margaret had done something particularly exasperating, Elizabeth would simply say: "Oh, Margaret!" In return, Margaret gave Elizabeth her total loyalty. At times Margaret's behaviour might cause strain, sometimes when they were grown up she would lose her temper, even when that sister became the Queen, but the underlying family feeling was always there. The relationship established in the nursery was to continue into their adult lives, with Elizabeth as the responsible elder sister and Margaret as the naughty girl who was always getting into scrapes.

The sisters were always close, welded together by their parents in a close-knit family quartet, "us four", as their father called it. He was desperately determined that his younger daughter should not suffer the discrimination which he had experienced in comparison with his elder brother, the acknowledged heir to the throne ("You will never know the difference 18 months could make," he once told Mrs Baldwin, the Prime Minister's wife, bitterly referring to his childhood and adolescence).

As far as possible, the four-year difference between the two children was to be ignored and, from the moment the youngest was out of baby clothes, the two would be dressed the same with dresses, shoes and hats in identical colours. This apparently was considered perfectly normal for upper-class families at the time, but it struck even the assimilated Chips Channon as odd when he saw the two Princesses still dressed the same at the Thanksgiving Service for the end of the Second World War in 1945, when Elizabeth was 19 and Margaret not yet 15. "Their father would overcompensate for what he saw as the inferiority of Margaret's pos-

ition as the younger sister relative to the royal heiress by spoiling her, thus storing up trouble for the future."

During the war there was always the training battalion of the Grenadiers stationed at Windsor, and it was the job of the 300-strong No 1 Company, known as the Castle Company, to guard the Royal Family. Young officers of the Castle Company, such as Mark Bonham Carter and Hugh Euston, used to lunch regularly with the Princesses and their governesses, Crawfie and Monty. "There was a very happy atmosphere when one lunched," one officer remembered. "Princess Eliza-

King directing operations. Pantomime posters were put up in the empty frames from which ancestral portraits had been removed for safekeeping, with ludicrous effects: Mother Goose appearing in a vast heavy gilt frame labelled Henrietta Maria, or Dick Whittington and his cat as Charles I.

A friend and contemporary of Elizabeth's who lived near the Castle described life there as having "a happy family atmosphere". Contrasting it with her own family relationships, which were difficult, she said: "It was really what a family should be... they were very, very devoted."

This cherished childhood, lived in such close tandem with a sister four years younger than herself, meant that Elizabeth was, as a friend said, "relatively young (for her age)", while Margaret was precocious for hers.

"The thing about her was that she was shy... didn't find things easy naturally, and there was always this stark comparison between her and Princess Margaret. The King used to look at Princess Margaret in sort of amazement that he had produced this object who found everything so easy and was a pretty little thing."

Princess Elizabeth was much more Hanoverian, much more solid; her face lit up when she smiled, but looked rather dead when she didn't — which remains the case today.

"The King spoilt Princess Margaret dreadfully," the daughter of one of his courtiers said. "She was his pet... she was always allowed to stay up to dinner at the age of 13 and to grow up too quickly. The courtiers didn't like her much — they found her amusing, but... She used to keep her parents and everyone waiting for dinner because she wanted to listen to the end of a programme on the radio. I remember my father despairing of her."

Crawfie, the royal nanny, sensibly, worried about the effect this was having on Elizabeth and asked friends: "Could you this year only ask Princess Elizabeth to your party? We really are trying to separate them a bit because Princess Margaret does draw all the attention and Princess Elizabeth lets her do that." Elizabeth herself used to say: "Oh, it's so much easier when Margaret's there — everybody laughs at what Margaret says..." Her mother also had the same effect of silencing Elizabeth. "I noticed that, when the Queen was present, her daughter made no conversational effort



Elizabeth's protective instinct shows in 1931

'It's so much easier when Margaret's there,' Elizabeth said, 'everybody laughs at what she says'

Elizabeth was reserved but charming... her sister was very forward."

The young officers used to accompany the Princesses and their friends on picnics in Windsor Great Park and there would occasionally be small dances of around one hundred people. At weekends when the King and Queen were there, there were often childish games such as sardines played all over the Castle. The Queen was the life and soul of these occasions; once when Eleanor Roosevelt was staying there after the war, she was amused by after-dinner charades with the Queen prancing around wearing a false beard while Churchill sat grumpily frowning in an armchair.

At Christmas there was always a pantomime in which the Princesses took part, scripted by a local schoolmaster with a supporting cast of local schoolchildren. Sometimes even the Guardsmen appeared on stage, with the



The close sibling relationship under way in August 1932

and relapsed into silence." Cecil Beaton wrote after one royal photographic session.

Things would not, however, be easy for her daughter Margaret, the spoilt darling of her father, the centre of attention at all the parties at Windsor, Balmoral and Buckingham Palace. Unlike her mother and sister, she had never had any role to play apart from exercising her talent to amuse and often (if you were a courtier's wife) to infuriate.

For Margaret, the death of her father meant expulsion from a childhood paradise. "The King's death," a friend said, "was a terrible thing for Princess Margaret; she worshipped him and it was also the first time anything really ghastly had happened to her." Her grief was heartbreaking — the unsympathetic John Gordon, then Editor of the *Sunday Express*, reported that she had had to be given bromide for four days to calm her. To Nancy Astor, she wrote a touching letter about her father.

"You know what a truly wonderful person he was, the very heart and centre of our family, and no one could have had a more loving and thoughtful father. We were such a happy family and we will have such lovely memories of him to remember when the grief of his loss has lessened."

"He was so kind and brave all his life. We are thanking God for His words of comfort that make us sure he is with Him, safe and happy and perhaps closer to us than he has ever been."

The King had been the centre of their universe; now he was suddenly gone and their world had shifted on its axis, its focal point the new Queen. Both were stunned. Elizabeth wrote: "Mummy and Margaret have the biggest grief to bear, for their future must seem very blank, while I have a job and a family to think of."

him by his wife on a plane. Two days later a statement was issued from Kensington Palace.

"Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, and the Earl of Snowdon have mutually agreed to live apart. The Princess will carry out her public duties and functions unaccompanied by Lord Snowdon. There are no plans for divorce proceedings."

Elizabeth's press secretary, Ronald Allison, told the press: "The Queen is naturally very sad at what happened," adding that there had been "no

pressure from her on either Princess Margaret or Lord Snowdon to take any particular course". This was literally the truth. Elizabeth was indeed desperately sad at the failure of the marriage. She doted on the Snowdon children, who had spent so many of their holidays with her at Balmoral, Windsor and Sandringham while their parents were in some exotic location. She loved her sister, who seemed doomed never to find happiness. Even while she disapproved of the Roddy Llewellyn connection, describing it privately as "my sister's guttersnipe life", she had not attempted to forbid it. Like the rest of Margaret's inner circle, she felt somehow that the unhappy Princess's personal well-being was a responsibility on all of them.

Elizabeth and her advisers came to the conclusion that Roddy must temporarily disappear from the scene. The final act of Princess Margaret's doomed marriage was about to be played.

On May 10 it was announced from the Palace that the Princess was seeking a divorce; the statement stressed that she had no plans to remarry and intended to live her life as the Queen's sister to the full. It was not, however, the end of her friendship with Roddy. Elizabeth's arm's-length attitude to Roddy and his relationship with her sister was made perfectly plain in the difficulties over the organisation of Margaret's fiftieth birthday party in 1980. Elizabeth made it clear that she could not attend any party for her sister at which Roddy was present, as it would therefore appear that she was countenancing the relation-

ship. Margaret wanted him at the dinner. Elizabeth did not want him there at all. There were rows and eventually a compromise was reached: Colin and Anne Tennant, who, as Margaret's oldest and most

The Queen described the Roddy Llewellyn connection as 'my sister's guttersnipe life'

loyal friends, would otherwise have been seated at one of the top tables, were detailed off to give Roddy dinner elsewhere, and he would be allowed to come in after 10.30 with the after-dinner guests. It was a clear signal that there could be no future in the friendship, which had already lasted seven years. To everyone's surprise it was ended not by the Princess but by Roddy a year

later, when he fell in love with and married Tania Soskin. The story ended happily for Roddy, who by this time had made a name for himself as a garden designer; he and Tania had two children and lived happily in an idyllic cottage in Oxfordshire. Margaret was alone again. "I'm back to where I started with Peter," she admitted, "but this time I'm divorced..."

Elizabeth remained on good terms with Snowdon after the divorce. However badly he might have behaved towards her sister when their marriage was on the road to ruin, his comportment afterwards was impeccable and he proved to be an excellent father, although sometimes showing a cruel streak. Elizabeth was very fond of the Snowdon children, particularly Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones: "she virtually brought them up," a friend said. "They love the Queen and she loves them."

Edited extracts from Elizabeth, A Biography of Her Majesty the Queen, to be published by William Heinemann on February 5, £20

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## A love of horses on courses

RACEGOER

ELIZABETH'S one extravagance is her racing, and even that is kept as far as possible on a businesslike basis. She is no longer one of the leading owners, either in terms of number of horses in training or prize money. Racing today is a big-money business and has changed out of all recognition since the advent of the really big players such as the al-Maktoum brothers a decade ago. The Arabs have 500 mares, Elizabeth only 20. Three-quarters of the Arabs' horses are bought at public auction with money no object. Elizabeth rarely buys, partly because there would be political repercussions if she spent vast sums on horses. She races the horses that she breeds.

As far as breeding goes, she has the studs which she inherited — two in Norfolk on the Sandringham estate and one at Polhampton in Hampshire, where she keeps her yearlings.



Thrill of the turf: the excitement is all too much at Ascot

In 1982 she bought West Ilsley training stables in Berkshire for about £750,000. Some of her horses were already being trained there by Major Dick Hern (who was given a seven-year lease terminating in 1989), but Elizabeth decided she would like to own a racing stable.

As the Queen's income is now taxed, the studs are a business and have to be profit-

able. "This is difficult to achieve and if the exercise comes out all square, that's what we're aiming for," her racing manager, the Earl of Carnarvon, says.

As well as loving all horses and knowing a great deal about them, Elizabeth likes going racing, as any teleshot of her at Ascot will show, when she comes alive as she never does on ceremonial occasions.

### Book offer

Copies of *Elizabeth* can be bought by readers of *The Times* at a special price of £15 each (plus postage and packing) from Reed Books Services, PO Box 5, Rushden, Northants NN10 6XJ (01933 414000). Cross cheques and make payable to Reed Books Services Ltd, with name and full address on the back, quoting reference K128. Allow up to 28 days for delivery from February 5.





## Why female spiders make a meal of mating

## Dying for sex

THE MATING habits of the spider have always struck a chill into the faint-hearted. The much smaller males, overcoming their fear of the voracious females, approach and may make themselves known by plucking gently at the female's web. They can hang about for days waiting to be noticed, dancing, posing, or even offering the object of their interest a fly to unwrap.

Despite it all, many males are eaten by the females as soon as they have mated with them. Sometimes, a pathetic male with only a few legs left continues to struggle for sex long after a sensible creature would have given up. Biologists have long puzzled over this. For sexual cannibalism seems to offer no advantage to males, and not much more than a good lunch to females.

Now two explanations have emerged at the same time. Göran Arnqvist and Stefan Henriksson of Umeå University in Sweden claim that it is simply a hangover from the female's youth. They studied fishing spiders, which grow more than an inch long and live on tadpoles and small fish.

Female spiders produce only a single batch of eggs, and the number of eggs depends on the size of the female. The more she eats, the more eggs, and the greater the



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

number of progeny. This means that selection pressure for voracious females is immensely strong, and is governed by a single hormone, so the creatures cannot turn off their appetites when they are adult.

For the behaviour to survive, the benefits of a big appetite for females must exceed the risks of diminishing their progeny by eating its father. But what about the males?

Maydianne Andrade, a zoologist from the University of Toronto, studied the Australian Redback spider, a species in which males co-operate in their

demise by somersaulting during sex to position themselves above the female's jaws. Bizarre, on the face of it. But Ms Andrade found that cannibalised males copulated longer, and fertilised more eggs, than those which survived. In addition, females that ate a mate were more likely to reject another. So the males gain by increasing the chances that their genes will carry on.

In any case, she reports in *Science*, males generally mate only once, so by dying they lose little in terms of opportunities. And because the females are prone to promiscuity, males gain by protecting their paternity in the single chance they get. If it costs them their lives, so what?

## Benefits of solid work on fluids



A FLUID is a fluid until it is constrained in a very thin layer between two smooth surfaces. Then it becomes a solid, Israeli scientists have discovered.

The result is paradoxical because an unconstrained layer of fluid — a drink spilt on a table, for example — continues to flow downhill however thin it is. But if there is a second surface above it, and if the layer is no more than six molecules thick, it goes solid.

Hitherto the only way of achieving such a change was by increasing pressure or by freezing. Using a fluid called octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (OMCTS) Jacob Klein and Eugenia Kumacheva, of the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, have shown that an abrupt change takes place as the gap narrows.

At seven molecules thick the fluid flows. At six molecules thick it suddenly goes solid, shear resistance increasing ten-millionfold so that the fluid no longer escapes from between the surfaces.

The finding could have implications for lubrication, for the wear of rubbing surfaces, and for the wetting of surfaces by fluids. The Weizmann team has found the effect in other fluids too, and is now going on to investigate the nature of the transition and of the "solid" produced.

## Did Stonehenge slide into place?



WERE the bluestones of Stonehenge dragged to Salisbury Plain by teams of men, or carried there by glaciers? They come from a mountain in Mid-Wales, so some agency must have borne them to their present location.

A year ago, David Bowen, of the University of Wales in Cardiff, used chlorine-36 dating, which shows when a rock surface was first exposed to air, to disprove the glacial theory. His figures showed that a sample of stone from Stonehenge had been exposed only 14,000 years ago, too late for any ice-sheet to have carried it to Wiltshire.

Now the glacial theorists have hit back. In *Antiquity*, Owen Williams-Thorpe, of the Open University, and some colleagues argue that the fragment dated by Professor Bowen might indeed have been carried by glaciers, then reburied. Or it might have broken off recently from a much larger piece, exposing a new surface.

Chlorine-36 dating could help to date the outcrops of stone in Wales, and the bluestones of Stonehenge. If sufficient samples of undamaged stone could be found, they say. But the results would still be open to interpretation. "Chlorine-36 dates give no evidence either for or against glacial transport of the bluestones of Stonehenge," they conclude.



Born to question: birth order may be more important than genes or social class in determining how revolutionary a child will grow up to be

## Are younger siblings rebels with a cause?

Come the revolution, what drives some people into rebellion and others into reaction? Self-interest plays a big part. But it is also plain that some people are inherently more radical than others. According to an extraordinary new study, soon to be published, the most powerful predictor of whether somebody

will join or resist a revolution, political or intellectual, is his or her birth order. Younger children rebel, eldest children defend the status quo.

On hearing this, most people respond by thinking of exceptions. But give Frank Sulloway of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the author of this theory, a chance to explain himself. Sulloway is not a man to do things by half. A respected psychologist and expert statistician, he has spent 25 years gathering data on the effect of birth order on personality. His methods are objective. He has asked more than 100 historians to score thousands of historical characters according to how revolutionary or reactionary the person was on various different measures. Then he painstakingly tracked down the birth order of as many as he could.

Take one of his examples: the theory of evolution. Between 1700 and 1875, many hundreds of people expressed views on evolution. Throughout those years, evolution was seen as a radical, subversive doctrine. Sulloway found a marked difference between elder siblings and younger ones. Individual later-borns were ten times more likely than firstborns to believe in evolution — a difference that persisted until the late 19th century, when evolution at last became a respectable idea and the birth-order effect disappeared.

He then compared their views with the age at which they expressed them. As expected, older people were less likely to support the radical doctrine of evolution than younger people. But a 25-year-old first-born was as likely to support evolution as an 80-year-old later-born. Birth order is even stronger than age in its effect on radicalism.

It is also much stronger than social class. Upper-class Charles Darwin and lower-class Alfred Russel Wallace were younger children and supporters of evolution. Upper-class Charles Lyell and lower-class William Whewell were eldest children and opposed it. This pattern was repeated throughout. Yet whole acclaimed biographies have been written of Darwin arguing that the fight for and against evolution was determined largely by the protagonists' views on the social order. Such books do not even mention birth order.

Charles Darwin, a fifth-generation younger child and four years younger than his next oldest sibling, was, in Sulloway's phrase, "loaded to the gills with predictable factors" for making him a radical in his chosen field. The wealthy and reclusive son of a

Matt Ridley reports on a new theory that suggests first-born children grow up to defend the status quo while later offspring tend to kick over the political and intellectual traces



Charles Darwin was a fifth-generation younger sibling

tists, 993 members of the French National Convention during the Terror of 1793-94, the leaders of 62 different American reform movements, such as the abolition of slavery, and more than 700 protagonists in the Protestant Reformation in Europe. In each case, younger children were

far more likely to support reform or revolution, while elder children were more likely to support reaction.

The effect is proportional to how radical the revolution is. Thus, Newtonian physics, which had fewer political and religious implications than Darwinian biology, was less strongly associated with younger children. Eugenics and spiritualism, which were reactionary movements, were actually led by first-borns. Many theories, including psychoanalysis, relativity and Copernican astronomy were supported by later-borns when they were new and heretical, then

much like a younger brother. The really intriguing thing about Sulloway's argument (which will appear in his book *Born to Rebel*, to be published by Pantheon later this year) is that he has come to believe that it fits neatly into a neo-Darwinian theory. In other words, it may actually be an adaptive response rather than

more sense I can make of it," says Sulloway.

Modern neo-Darwinism is all about conflict: conflict between genes, between genders, between parents and offspring, and between siblings. Darwinists predict that siblings sometimes have to compete for their share of parental investment. In extreme cases, some eagle chicks always kill all their younger siblings to ensure a monopoly of parental care.

In a similar way, it seems, human children learn to diversify their behaviour and interests to avoid too much direct competition with siblings. Later-born human children, in particular, seem to develop an inclination to strike out on their own, choose career paths different from their siblings, and fight for attention by being open-minded, risk-taking and radical. These can be faults rather than advantages: gullibility is a later-born characteristic.

As Sulloway predicts, this pattern sometimes results in a zig-zag effect in large families with some younger children being reactionary just in reaction to the radicalism of the next sibling up.

Sulloway's argument demolishes all simplistic notions of nature and nurture. Until now it was thought that being brought up in the same family as close as you could get to having the same environment. But it is not. Being number one in a large family is a very different experience from being number three. It is as different as being the dominant or the subordinate animal in a troop of monkeys.

If Sulloway is right, it might seem to vindicate those who argue that human nature is determined by environment, not genes. But in fact it does no such thing. The neo-Darwinian argument that there is such a thing as an adaptive human nature has never assumed that all differences between individuals are genetic. Quite the reverse: it argues that we all have much the same genes, designed to react to different environments in different ways. First-borns have different personalities from later-borns not because of "culture" but because of common human instincts.

Neo-Darwinians have been saying for years that they are not genetic determinists obsessed with nature rather than nurture. Rather, they have insisted that human nature was an evolved set of adaptations, some of them hard-wired, others designed to be flexibly altered by the environment. Conventional wisdom in the social sciences holds that people are just random, hapless victims of their peculiar background culture, as if culture were some amorphous





# Out of my mind with terror



For years, Melvyn Bragg secretly lived in fear of 'out of body experiences'. For the first time, he tells how he overcame his nightmare

They began when I was about 13 and continued upwards of two years, at times intensively. They faded away slowly, but still at 18 or 19 I was apprehensive that they might return, and in force. They did, briefly, at the end of my twenties, but since then I have been spared.

Usually they came at night. I cannot recall the first time, but I do remember the first onslaught. My parents kept a pub and they would be downstairs from about 5.30pm until after 11pm. I would have been out at choir practice, the Scouts, swimming, playing football, whatever, and come back to take it on. Having eaten a quick snack in the bar kitchen downstairs, I would go up to my bedroom — I would be alone in the flat above the pub. I would know that it was waiting for me, but I had no alternative but to go upstairs, although I would feel distraught.

I used to say my prayers then and yet I never mentioned this fear in them. For one thing, that would have been to extemporise, and the prayers I said were set ones, spoken twice on Sundays in church and most mornings in school assembly. There was no room for individual additions except to bless parents and relations, but that was somewhat allowed for. What was not allowed was to tell anyone what was happening.

I cannot remember before or since being anything like as terrified. I remember the fact of it, and even a little digging into memory gives off something of the taste of it. I would simply lie in bed waiting for it to happen, screwing up my eyes as tight as possible, hoping that I would be felled by instant, merciful sleep or somehow left alone. When I was, the relief the next morning was momentary before the fear began to build again.

What happened was this. Not part of me, but what I was left the boy's body on that bed and went above — it seemed to the corner of the ceiling next to the window. It hovered there. It stayed there. It, that thing, that object, was me. The huddle on the bed was controlled by it. There was no will in the boy's body. There was

only, as it were, a holding state uninhabited, save for a possessing aura of terror. Whether the terror was in the body or in that thing which, at times, I thought I could make out and describe, I do not know. But the experience was terror.

If the thing moved away then the body would be finished. It would be no more, because that thing not only controlled the body but gave it life. The desperate fear was — would these two fuse again or not? What did this presence want the body to do besides lying inert and being a void? Somehow an invisible help-

line would be thrown and the two would come together — and usually by that time I was exhausted and went into sleep of a sort.

This became the secret obsession of my life over those years. The noise from the pub downstairs, which could be lulling or sometimes on Fridays and Saturdays, rather threatening, would often be a help. But when the pub closed and my parents had cleared up and settled downstairs for their final talk, the silence intensified the dread.

On spring and summer nights they would often go out for a walk after they had cleared up. I wanted to rush down and beg them not to after the cheery "We're just off for a bit of fresh air", but of course I would have been ashamed to have done that. I dare not. Left alone was the worst possible state. And so I would track their walk. I knew the route. I would try to time it. I would try to "be" with them.

Down Burnfoot past Joe Hill's on the corner with a shed in the garden where he slept for his asthma. Then into Birdcage Walk, along the cinder track past the allotments, with the pigeons silent as the pub, and on to the West Cumberland Farmers' warehouses. I feared I was always ahead of them and forced myself to slow down. Past Toppins field, where I used to play when I lived in Council House Yard. Toppins field, with its great beech tree and its bomb shelters dug in the war.



An artist's view of the "out of body experience" — Melvyn Bragg now believes that such events may be evidence of a distinction between body and soul

Then the Redmaynes clothing factory where my mother had worked as a girl.

Then they would turn into Station Road opposite the factory and slowly up the hill back into the middle of the town, left around Blue Bell corner, past Tickle's Lane and towards the pub. I was always ahead and so I'd go over the route again trying to pick out more and more details until I heard them coming down the hill and, finally, the key turned in the lock and there would be some comfort.

These experiences, or attacks, were never anything other than utterly terrifying. I have read other people describing analogous experiences in terms of happiness and hope; that was never mine. In its most intensive period, they began to happen in the classroom, on the street, everywhere, and I seemed to spend my entire time constructing strategies to evade them or endure them.

It was impossible to talk to anyone about it. My parents could not have been better or kinder, but it was inconceivable that I could discuss this with them. How would I describe it? What would I, literally, say?

It has taken me this long to be able to write about it openly and autobiographically, although it was part of the main character in my first novel — when I was 25 — unconsciously as it were.

I was still convinced that I had never admitted to it when, consciously, I made this state part of the underpinning of the main character in a later novel. But it was when I found myself referring to it in a recent interview about religious belief, in which the possibility of a duality and a soul was introduced, that I wanted to begin to put on paper something of that experience.

I could not talk to my parents, as I have said. I was

not ill, so there was no need of a doctor. It was totally off the radar as far as friends were concerned. I just had to get through it, although at the time I thought simultaneously both that it would never end and that this attack could be the last.

I am sure that there are a number of plausible explanations. We know that people with an amputated arm can be driven to a frenzy at the pain in their missing fingers. We know from those who have been almost dead but just "returned" that similar experi-

ences to mine are not uncommon. A. J. Ayer described one such most vividly.

There are fantasies within the human condition and in the casebooks of many analysts — Oliver Sachs is just one example — which furnish explained instances of circum-

stances much more bizarre. I am sure that materialists of consciousness will bring forward proof and so on. And there is the undeniable, unpredictable pressure of adolescence.

But at the risk of building far too much on this slender base of personal experience, my current thinking is that what I experienced is evidence of a duality, of a split, in Christian terms, of a distinction between body and soul.

It is relevant perhaps, and it could take away from my case that I was brought up as a strong Christian and the religious experience was, with me — as is common — especially strong in early adolescence. But the solidity of the thing which was undoubtedly outside my body, and the number of times it happened, and most importantly, the fact that it was the life, the intelligence as it were, is something I cannot, and do not want to, deny.

I'm prepared to be told that this evidence is too personal and too slight, but for what it is worth I hold on to it and find in it a duality which magnetises my earlier, schooled, received faith.

Perhaps these experiences would have faded away on their own, but at about 15 I realised that I had to attack them. At the same time I was not doing well at school and I knew that I had to study or leave and get work. I began to overwork and to write and to do as many other things as I could manage. Most importantly, I stayed in that bedroom studying on a chopped-off table which was wedged between the bed and the wardrobe. This was a conscious attempt to face up to it, in the very place where I had experienced it most violently and frighteningly. Gradually, I grew a bit stronger, although even in my late twenties I could feel fragile and vulnerable.

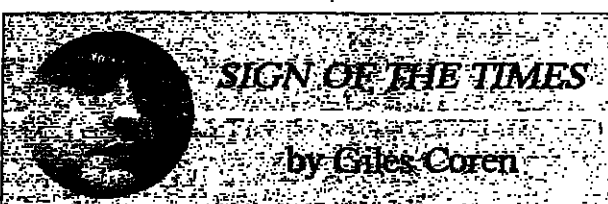
It is something that I would like to understand more. I would also like to gather up the determination to attempt to go through that experience again, but that will take a build-up of energy and nerve which another part of me says it would be foolish to do. To seek to uncork a part of the past now blessedly gone would be not only painful but dangerous.

## Standing up for gallantry

ON A crowded Tube between Camden Town and Euston one morning last week, a woman I had never met before told me she was 38. It was an unsolicited goblet of personal information, and left me feeling a bit of a cad. One should never, I had always believed, put a woman in a position where she is forced to reveal her age.

But it was the only defence she could muster, faced with a young man who had unthinkingly offered her his seat in a crowded Tube carriage. It was a reflex action on my part, a knee-jerk response (literally) born of careless breeding: see a woman without a seat, stand up and offer her yours. "I can stand up just as well as you," she barked. "I'm only 38, you know." The practice of offering one's seat away on the basis of chromosomes is something I have never questioned, like opening doors or walking on the outside of the pavement. Whether it was a "good" or "bad" thing didn't come into it. If I fail to open the car door for my mother, even now, she doesn't speak for the rest of the journey. But perhaps it is a worse offence to suggest that a woman is incapable of standing than to remain seated while she does so.

It is becoming more and more hazardous to offer that seat. I have about a one in three rejection rate on my offers, but I never ask why. On the Northern Line between Kentish Town and Bank, where it is arguably more hygienic to stand up anyway, I tried to go a little deeper. There were half a dozen



There is a consensus on pregnant women getting seats

people standing and no available seats. A woman in her forties was standing in the aisle reading a book with a shiny cover. A man of about my age was sitting nearby reading a paper. I asked him why he didn't offer her his seat. "Didn't see her," he said. So why didn't he offer her the seat now?

"It's market forces," he explained. "I have paid to use the Tube, and if there's a seat for me there's a seat for me. I don't see why perfectly healthy-looking women need to sit down any more than I do." There was a general consensus that seats should be given up for pregnant women, the obviously old and decrepit,

and people with broken limbs — but women were equally as likely to do that as men. (On the Paris Metro there is even a list of priority cases posted on the window, with *mutilés de guerre* just above *mutilés civils*, giving rise to a bizarre image of two one-legged men arguing over how they came by their amputation.) But is there no level at which gender comes into it?

"I certainly hope not," said a student called Julie. "I think it is a bit of a liberty to use me as a vessel to show off your gallantry. It smacks of an age when being courteous to women was an excuse to mistreat them in other ways." Another woman said that

she always accepts a seat to save the man the embarrassment of being turned down — a complete reversal in the gallantry stakes.

One commuter, a Mr Meeker, put his point very bluntly. "If they wanted gallantry, they could have had gallantry," he declared. "But they can't go around claiming to be equal and then expect me to give them my seat as well. I am sure there are plenty of women who would be delighted to be offered a seat, but they're not the vociferous ones, are they? The feminists have ruined it for them. I'm not too happy with women going to work anyway. I don't want to make it even easier for them."

Wary of seeming to espouse similarly anti-feminist views, I now tend to say nothing, and just get up as if I feel like stretching my legs. If she wants to sit down she can sit down. No one is embarrassed, and no one is condescended to — the only worry is that Mr Meeker will slip in on my blind side.

But Mr Meeker aside, it is time for British women to come to the rescue of the nation's men. The age of chivalry is clearly dead, but men who still want to give it a bash should be encouraged. We are not needed to fight in wars any more, we do not have to go to dangerous places to prop up a crumbling Empire, there are no runaway horses for us to subdue, nor even dastardly communist plots for us to foil. We are in danger of superannuation. Can we not be allowed this little indulgence?

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## Matthew Parris



■ For some people the performance has ended in acclaim, while for others it never really began

This story would be thought far-fetched were it to appear as fiction. You would say the poignancy was contrived. But it happened just so, last Thursday night.

In the late 1970s when Margaret Thatcher was Leader of the Opposition, I was sent by the Conservative Research Department to work in her Commons office as her correspondence clerk. A familiar figure in the central lobby in those days was a middle-aged gentleman — call him Mr Brown — who would wait there for hours, hoping for an appointment. He had written a book making proposals for the organisation of the world, and wished to discuss it with Mrs Thatcher. He had sent her the manuscript. He had even learnt some chapters by heart. Should she wish to discuss them, he was ready.

In some ways Mr Brown was a sort of Keith Joseph figure: learned, courteous, timid, though philosophically confident. But he never achieved the recognition Keith came to enjoy, and he had no money.

He sat in the lobby, week after week, never pushing or insisting. His suits grew gradually shabbier, but he remained a gentleman. You could guess his intelligence by his sharp eyes. He understood that Mrs Thatcher was too busy to see him, but he was on hand just in case she ever had time.

She never did. She would have made time if I had asked her to, for she was unfailingly personally kind. But I did not suggest this because his desire was not to shake her hand and receive a friendly word, but to convince her of his case. She would not have been convinced. The lobby was a safe and warm place, the police there respected Mr Brown and were good to him, and he had his contemplations to entertain him. I thought it might be best for him for this to continue.

It has continued for nearly 20 years. I am not sure whom he now plans to see, but, older, thinner, greyer, and I am afraid even poorer, he still comes often. I wrote about him here years ago, and it caused something of a falling-out between us, as he felt rather misrepresented; but he knows I admire him, I do not inquire into his personal circumstances but understand that he refuses to take any kind of welfare benefit, as he does not believe in socialism.

Last Thursday night I had planned to go to a concert at St Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square, where the young pianist Ian Jones was playing Bach's Piano Concerto in D minor. But at 4pm *The Times* asked me to write a sketch about Baroness Thatcher's Keith Joseph Memorial Lecture, which began at 6.30, so I

hurried to the City and found a place near the front, two rows behind Michael Portillo. Michael joined the Conservative Research Department not long before I was sent over to Mrs Thatcher's office. I watched Lady Thatcher, filled with nostalgia, to describe her performance, but really the performance is over and these occasions are devoted mostly to the applause.

My sketch had to be written within half an hour, a stressful task. When it was telephoned through successfully from the debris of a now empty press reception room, I spotted a packet of crisps and a half-empty bottle of red wine. I consumed both. Still tense, I began a brisk walk to St Martin's. I should be late for the concert, but in time for Mr Jones's performance. I walked past St Paul's, down Fleet Street and along the Strand.

Passing Rymans, opposite Charing Cross Station, I saw a figure huddled in a shop doorway. It was Mr Brown. He had a box and a blanket, half a packet of crisps and a cup of tea. He was not begging, and soon

Here was that stoical figure from the Commons lobby in a doorway in the Strand

recognised me when I joined him in the doorway. He explained that he had lost his house. In the roar of traffic I could not quite understand how I stayed, talking. Then a religious bigot came up and began screaming at us about damnation and stabbing at us with his fingers. Unwilling to leave Mr Brown in these circumstances, I sat with him. The bigot made off as four young men and women, one with cobwebs tattooed on her forehead and the others with cans of lager, arrived in our doorway. They ignored me. "Are you okay?" they asked Mr Brown. "We hang around here," one of the youths said to me. "We see he's all right. He's a gent."

I bade Mr Brown goodbye, in the care of better protection than I could afford, and hurried on to St Martin-in-the-Fields, entering to the sound of thunderous clapping. "He was excellent," someone whispered to me. Ian Jones's performance, too, was over, and I had arrived for the applause.

You can take it that Mr Brown is not short of offers of help. He does not want help any more than Keith Joseph did, and this story is not a parable about Thatcherism. It is not a parable about anything. It is not a parable. Keith is dead, and there is nothing to be done about Mr Brown. There is nothing to do to be done about Mr Portillo, about the religious bigot, the tattooed girl, or me. There is certainly nothing to be done about Lady Thatcher. It all simply happened, and like most things which happen, it is without meaning.

Of course it's my job to know everything, M'lud — but who exactly are all these people?

# This is a whole new ball game for me

William Rees-Mogg

one who likes suing for libel is capable of suing me for defamation, slander, malice, criminal libel, contempt of court, scandalum magnatum or piracy on the high seas. Did I call Terry Venables an "old fart"? Not at all, M'lud, I said that all his enemies and ill-wishers, who-soever and where-soever they might be, belonged to that camp and classification.

Yet even that is not safe. I seem

the job, but I am not clear what this row is about. The people who run the Football Association, if that is the correct name for Terry Venables's employers, are not the same as the people who run rugby football, because they are Will Carling's lot. The FA board are not therefore "old farts", but being middle-aged men running a young man's sport, they probably count as honorary old farts, as I do myself, and are almost certainly in the wrong about something, if not about everything.

Terry Venables himself seems to be middle-aged, to judge by his pictures on television. I suppose when he was young he played football for some club, since almost all football managers are ex-footballers. I have no idea for which club he played, but I presume it was not Grimsby Town, which would not have been grand enough for young Terry. Perhaps he scored the winning goal in the (suppositional) Cup Final when Chelsea beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 4-3 in extra time in 1962. That is the sort of thing football commentators remember, but I do not.

He must have been born somewhere. Did he learn his football among the lowering slag heaps of Derbyshire? Or within the sound of Bow Bells? There is so much rele-

vant detail which I do not know, but might have read in some profile. He is the sort of man who used to be profiled in *The Observer* to give that newspaper the common touch of the Hampstead intellectual who is interested in football. At some point Terry Venables became a businessman. He does not seem to be as good at business as he is at coaching soccer eleven, because he is now going to spend the autumn in litigation about business matters and in libel suits. I must myself be careful, for any-

to remember that Terry Venables does have a great enemy, who plays Caesar to his Pompey — the Roman general not the football club — called Alan Sugar. I am supposed to know about him because he is a real businessman. His trademark is designer stubble, just as Richard Branson's is balloons. His company is called Amstrad, and it sells low-cost computers, or used to do so. Alan Sugar has rows with people, and had a row with Terry Venables over something or another, after a period of amity and friendship in which, I think, Alan and Terry were as brothers.

In any case, I wish to make it clear, in the face of the court, that I have never suggested that Mr Sugar, whom I hold in the highest esteem, is an old fart, or that he has ever met Will Carling, or that he has read the weather forecast for Tyne Tees Television, or that he is other than the peaceful and wholly admirable character that gentlemen and ladies of the jury, you see before you.

I do, at this point, know something. I have at least one hard fact to offer. Mr Venables and Mr Sugar had their quarrel over Tottenham Hotspur, a London football club. Tottenham Hotspur plays at White

Hart Lane. The White Hart was the heraldic badge of his late Majesty, King Richard II, son of the Black Prince and grandson of King Edward III, the founder of the Order of the Garter. Richard was overthrown by the usurper, King Henry V, from whom the bogus Lancastrian claim to the throne was derived. William Shakespeare wrote a play about these events. All Tottenham Hotspur supporters are therefore loyal Yorkists, in terms of the War of the Roses. I imagine that this may have been the issue on which Mr Venables and Mr Sugar fell out. Mr Venables would be the true Yorkist and Mr Sugar might favour the usurper. Query: did Henry V wear designer stubble?

There is nothing like healthy and extensive ignorance. The world becomes a fog, through which strange and exotic figures appear and into which they disappear. One should not actually see these people, if one can avoid it. Before Christmas, I went to a party at Tiffany's where Elizabeth Hurley was poised out to me. She was a good-looking young woman wearing black sou-wester trousers. I now have a series of associations between Miss Hurley and the trawler fleet, and thence on to the wickedness of the European fisheries policy. Perhaps Terry Venables also has a view about cod quotas and the Irish Box. I would like Terry Venables, Elizabeth Hurley, Alan Sugar, Hugh Grant, Richard Branson, Will Carling and Mrs Will Carling — whoever she may prove to be — all to dress up in sou-westers and drop barrels of rotten herrings on the lawn of President Scalfaro at the Quirinal in Rome. That would make a good photo-opportunity, and it might please the Cornish fishermen as well.

## Away from social chaos

Governments must soothe our insecurities too, argues Peter Riddell



Baroness Thatcher asked the right question, but gave an answer for the 1980s, not the 1990s. John Major has so far offered only a partial answer. Tony Blair has provided an appealing answer, but one which raises many other questions. Since the new year, British politics has stumbled into a serious debate about ideas.

The question, identified by Lady Thatcher on Thursday, is that the Tories are unpopular now "above all because the middle classes — and all those who aspire to join the middle classes — feel they no longer have the incentives and opportunities they expect from a Conservative Government". But her explanation that this is because the Government is spending, borrowing and taxing too much is flawed. Of course, people would like taxes to be lower. But the disillusionment of the middle classes, Middle England or whatever, reflects deeper worries, brought to the surface by the recession of the early 1990s. For the first time, that produced the shock of widespread redundancy even in successful companies and the public sector, in Tory heartlands of the South as well as Labour strongholds in the North. The Thatcher Governments' attempts to give people a direct stake, through the big increase in home-ownership, has turned sour for many new or aspiring members of the middle class.

These insecurities have not disappeared with the recovery. "Downsizing", that horrible euphemism, remains a fear for many managers, as companies strive to cut costs in the face of intensified international competition. Other changes have left many unskilled people, particularly men, at the margins of the labour market, either permanently unemployed or with only a series of temporary, part-time jobs.

The leaders of the main parties ac-

cept that these international economic pressures are not going to disappear, nor should they be resisted. There is no serious support for protectionism, unlike in, say, France or America. The real question is how the consequences of these global economic forces can be made socially and politically acceptable. Lady Thatcher misses the point. Curbing, or even cutting, the burden of public spending and taxation may be a necessary condition for economic success, hard though she found it to achieve, but this alone does not address, and may even increase, people's insecurities.

John Major's Government has put all its money on making Britain competitive — making it, to use its not very catchy mantra, the enterprise centre of Europe. Rather like the stakeholding society, this slogan is an umbrella covering a whole range of policies from encouraging wealth-creation, through deregulation and reducing burdens on business, to

containing spending and taxes, and promoting training and skills. Only the Tories can, they argue, achieve these aims, since Labour is inhibited by its high-spending, high-tax instincts, its trade union links, attachment to the social chapter, a minimum wage and so on.

Senior ministers recognise — in the words of Stephen Dorrell, the rising hope of the Tory Centre-Left — that the "necessity for us to make a full-blooded commitment to a process of constant and quickening change creates a conflict for the politicians when the voters are yearning for a stability which they believe they have lost". His answer to these anxieties is to rebuild voters' confidence in economic stability: "stable prices, secure savings and dynamic businesses are the guarantors of our prosperity."

But the virtuous hair-shirt and low inflation are not enough. As Kenneth

Clarke recognised in his Mait Lecture in mid-1994, the State has a role in reducing the fears created by such changes. Worried voters need to be reassured that if they lose their jobs, their pensions will have some value and be transferable; that proper unemployment insurance will be available so that they are not forced into mortgage arrears and losing their houses; and that training schemes are more than just ways of massaging the unemployment figures. The State does not need to provide such services itself, but as a regulator it should ensure that they offer proper protection, to prevent repetition of the problems in some personal pension schemes. This is not putting a brake on change, but making it acceptable.

Mr Blair has recognised this challenge with his idea of a stakeholder society. He accepts global economic change and many of the Thatcher tax and trade union reforms, while differing from the Tories over the role of

government in promoting competitiveness in partnership with business. But in addition, and like Mr Clarke, he stresses today's greater social insecurity. Societies should not be divided into a secure and prosperous top part and an unskilled, undereducated and vulnerable bottom part. Everyone should have a chance and no one should be left out of a thriving economy.

The stakeholder society fills the vision gap, enabling Mr Blair to "tell a story" of how Britain would change, an essential part of any successful political campaign. It is intended as a "unifying theme", rather than as a detailed blueprint. But in face of Tory attacks, Mr Blair has distanced himself from the proposals of some stakeholder-advocates for new laws changing the ways businesses are regulated, and broadening the responsibilities of directors to groups other than just shareholders. Rather than legislation, he envisages relying on the goodwill of companies to be more socially responsible, to employees and consumers. Similarly, he stresses that there would be no corporate State giving formal powers to "unions and women's co-operatives".

Behind the rhetoric of empowerment, inclusiveness and similar "warm words" lie the existing Labour "welfare-to-work" plans to cut youth and long-term unemployment, and provide advice and training for the self-employed and high-quality education for all. As the Tories have pointed out, the concept also involves shifting costs from the State, and hence taxpayers, to businesses (via the minimum wage and a training levy) and to individuals (via possibly higher compulsory pension contributions).

The contrast between Tory and Labour can be characterised as the difference between a belief that economic growth creates social cohesion and the belief that social cohesion is a necessary precondition for economic growth. The preliminary skirmishes have shown that Mr Blair has picked an attractive, if bland, concept, but needs to do much more to explain its implications, whereas Mr Major has so far addressed only half the question. Competitiveness is necessary but not sufficient to win back the middle classes. Insecurity also matters.

## Captivated

TWITCHERS are, well, twitching with excitement at a report in the latest *British Birds* magazine. The news concerns Tim Cowley, the birdwatching British Embassy aide who was held hostage for four months last year by a guerrilla group in Colombia and was rescued in December.

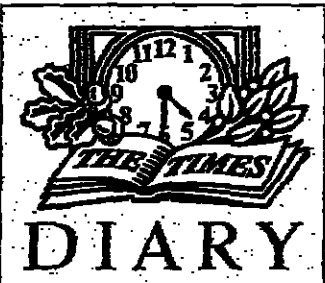
Cowley reports that, although he was held captive high in the Quebrada de San José, he was well treated and that his captors allowed him to use his binoculars for bird-watching. It was one of

his most successful ever counts. "Tim recorded 38 species while held hostage," reports the magazine, "including 20 personal 'lifers', and six species new to the region." Highlights included a tolima dove, an olive-headed brush-finch, a flock of 40 or 50 gold-plumed parakeets and two groups of yellow-eared parrots. Sadly, all his notes were lost as he was rescued.

### More chums

AFTER my discovery of the 1940s television Just William and the inspiration for Violet Elizabeth last week, another of the Outlaws has emerged. Douglas, the lugubrious member of Williams's gang, has been traced to Westcliff-on-Sea. Nicholas Bennett, the former government minister, was researching a book on Ealing Films, and tracked down James Crabbe, now an insurance salesman, to talk to him about his role in *Hue and Cry*, when he realised he had found "Douglas".

Crabbe remembers typical Outlaw jolly japes when the cameras stopped rolling. "I was about thir-



teen when I made *Just William's* Luck in 1947," he recalls. "We were filming on location when we sneaked off during lunch and found a pond to swim in. We leapt in, stark naked, and forgot the time and discovered people had been looking for us for ages. The director was furious."

### Untold joy

THE islanders of Skye, rather than pay tolls to use the new road bridge to the mainland, have taken to drink. The profits from a new beer, Extortion Ale, will be used to pay the fines of those still refusing to stump up the £4.30 toll.

It is a canny wheeze on the part of the Skye Brewery Company, which is producing the beverage. It will be exported to the rest of Scotland

across the bridge by untollable horse-and-cart and wheelbarrow. Having sunk £9 million into the £25 million bridge, the Government might care to remember that not so long ago it also shelled out tens of thousands in grants to help establish a certain small business — the Skye Brewery Company.

### Screened out

A DOGFIGHT is on to keep the bulldozer from the birthplace of one of the most important inventions in British military history.

Petersham Vicarage, in south-west London, was the scene of the development of radar in the 1930s, and the prototype transmitters were perched on its roof.

Now the Crown Estate Commissioners plan to demolish it and bring in the Prince of Wales's architectural pal, the neo-classicist Quinlan Terry, to construct a new house. But heritage and historical groups have locked onto the Victorian building's importance.

Richmond councillors rejected the scheme but the Crown Estate commissioners decided to dig in and won a public inquiry, which starts this week.

The building has a very interesting history. It would be quite wrong to knock it down," says

Councillor Serge Lourie. "We plan to replace an unlisted, redbrick Victorian building with an exceptional one," counter the commissioners. Battle lines are drawn.

### The Bruise

THE Scottish Borders resounded to the blood-curdling cries of the Battle of Bannockburn at the weekend. Scores of extras waded through lochs of tomato ketchup during filming of the latest historical epic *The Bruce*, starring Oliver Reed, Brian Blessed and Wolf, the preposterous Gladiator.



However, this was no mere re-enactment of the 1314 conflict, more a re-enactment of the re-enactment. Producers had decided that the original footage of the slaughter of the aud enemy, shot last year, was not gory enough, and ordered a bloodier re-run. "My nickname now is 'Dave the Blood' because I have poured so much dummy blood over everyone," said David Churchill, a weary make-up artist.

One wonders where Roy Hattersley finds time to launch his broadsides against Tony Blair's new Labour, so ubiquitous are his interrogations and reviews of others in the press. But today Labour's erstwhile deputy leader embarks on another exciting new adventure — as TV critic of the Daily Express.

### Miner trouble

SOMETHING OF a change of scene for the elfin actress Tara Fitzgerald. She has been filming in Yorkshire behind tight security, after threats of firebomb attacks against the crew of *Brassed Off*. She found the streets of Grimsby patrolled by youths carrying half-bricks, and she told *Classic FM* magazine: "It makes me feel I come from another, soft, part of the world."



Tara: threatened

Although she is more used to appearing on our screens as a little underdressed, she has been fully wrapped up for her gritty role in the film about a brass band in a community devastated by the closure of the mine. Still, amid all the threats in the former pit village, she has at least learnt to play the flugelhorn.

P.H.S





## TOKYO SWORDS

A battle looms — with implications well beyond Japan

The Japanese have just finished celebrating, if that is the right word, the holiday period which they call "forgetting the year". Rarely have the prayers for a clean break been so fervent: the book of 1995 contained Japan's worst chapter of misery since the postwar recovery began.

The yen soared, inflicting further punishment on Japan's faltering economy. Then came the Kobe earthquake, and the poison gas attacks that led to the uncovering of the sinister designs of the Aum Shinrikyo sect. The year ended with the announcement of a deeply unpopular scheme to spend \$4.2 billion of public money to bail out investors, mostly Japan's cosseted farmers, who lost their shirts when Japan's housing loan corporations went into well-deserved insolvency after the bubble of property prices burst. Worse may follow: this is only one, relatively minor, aspect of Japan's biggest banking crisis since the 1920s. To cap it all, Japan's political leadership appeared, in the inept hands of the ageing and powerless Socialist Prime Minister, Tomiichi Murayama, to be even weaker than its economic miracle.

Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's new Prime Minister, has an aura of authority about him which is enough in itself to lift the national mood somewhat. But the sense of relief that he brings may not last long. Mr Hashimoto, a tough talker whose popularity soared when he successfully fought off American demands in trade talks last year, is expected to lead Japan decisively back to sustainable prosperity. As a known practitioner of *kendo*, the martial art played with wooden swords, Mr Hashimoto looks the part of bold reformer; but his instincts lie with the status quo, and instinct will be reinforced by his political strategy, which is to avoid elections until he estimates that his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is poised to regain the dominance of Japanese politics which it enjoyed until 1993. He is unlikely to risk the ire of powerful bureaucrats, let alone the retailers and farmers who form the backbone of traditional LDP support, by championing the deregulation that Japan needs.

The real novelty in Japanese politics will lie in the certainty that his every move will be powerfully challenged by another charismatic figure, Ichiro Ozawa — the contrastingly radical politician whose defection brought about the LDP's fall back in 1993. Mr Ozawa, who heads the opposition New Frontier Party, has denounced the backroom deals that ushered in the Hashimoto Government and is bent on forcing early elections. When they take place, which could be as early as this summer, Japanese voters will at long last have a choice between two sharply different political philosophies.

Mr Ozawa is the author of a book, *Blueprint for a New Japan*, which lives up to its ambitious title. He says that Japan will not be a "normal country" until it makes a bonfire of bureaucratic controls and learns the arts of individual responsibility. He wants Japan to become a low-tax, *laissez-faire* economy, open to competition; and also a democracy in which consumers and voters are king. Mr Hashimoto, by contrast, would settle for growth without real political change, relying mainly on classic Keynesian pump-priming. His plans centre on public works. He is right that these are overdue: Japan's cramped cities, for example, still lack such basic amenities of a rich society as universal access to sewers. But they will not unclog Japan's bureaucracy.

This Thursday, the two parties hold their conventions, raising the curtain on a power struggle between these two men whose like Japan has not seen in living memory. The LDP is well ahead of Mr Ozawa's party, but Mr Ozawa is a brilliant political strategist. Mr Hashimoto is vulnerable to determined attack — not least because, as the Finance Minister between 1989 and 1991 who should have reined in the runaway housing loan corporations but failed to do so, he can hardly escape blame for the unpopular rescue package. The Hashimoto-Ozawa battle is now set to dominate Japanese public life. In politics if in little else, this shows that Japan is already becoming the "normal country" of Mr Ozawa's dreams.

## AN IRA OFFER

Mitchell's mediating team is closing gaps

Beneath the clatter of verbal fire which accompanies every negotiation on Northern Ireland, one key position may have shifted — and in the right direction. This Thursday, Senator George Mitchell and his two fellow referees are due to deliver their proposals on how the deadlock over decommissioning IRA arms might be resolved. The parties are still divided and compromises are hard. But the differences have been shrunk by the very existence of mediators and by their steady probing of both positions.

The IRA's insistence that it will not "surrender" and that soldiers and policemen should disarm at the same time is melting away in face of its own foolishness. The IRA has never been invited to humiliate itself but to give convincing guarantees that it will seek to persuade people by democratic means alone. The "demand" for security force weapons to be given up at the same time has been undermined by the idiocy of the implied equivalence and by the fact that fewer police and military weapons are visible with each week of unbroken peace.

The IRA's fantasy agenda created for the airwaves has given way to a slow but clear acceptance of two out of the three so-called "Washington Principles". These three British conditions for the opening of all-party talks on Northern Ireland's future call for the IRA to show a willingness to disarm, for the Government and Sinn Féin to agree on how decommissioning would occur and for some arms to be put out of use before political talks can start.

Sinn Féin's paper to Senator Mitchell suggests that instead of dumping arms to be collected by the authorities, the IRA might destroy their own caches. A picture of how violence might eventually be shut down has

finally emerged from the organisation which does the killing. Sinn Féin's document hints that independent verification of weapons destruction would be acceptable. This proposal is similar to one option which the British Government also put to Senator Mitchell, albeit accompanied by a warning that the public safety and verification rules would need attention.

The IRA has thus slid gently towards accepting the principle of decommissioning: its plans broadly overlap with a scheme which London does not rule out. If London can satisfy itself that the arrangements for verification are watertight, arms will be taken out of commission. Precisely who destroys them and how is secondary. If IRA pride requires do-it-yourself decommissioning, no additional risks need be run by agreeing to this change. Two of the three Washington Principles are satisfied.

That leaves "Washington Three": the requirement that some decommissioning occur before all-party talks. This is the hardest knot which Senator Mitchell has been asked to untie, because it is inherently political. All-party talks without Northern Ireland's Unionists will mean little and lead nowhere. The Unionists still smell a trap in the latest concession from Sinn Féin and remain wary. But David Trimble, their energetic leader, is busy suggesting additional forums for discussion designed to defuse the problem. Some Sinn Féin officials seem sympathetic. A small patch of common ground is visible. The work of those discussions of the future will be the breaking of the terrorist principle which has warped Northern Ireland's politics out of all natural shape. Intellectual decommissioning is the most important decommissioning of all.

## DRESS FOR DINNER

Virgin olive oil and the middle-class mind

A worldwide shortage of olive oil would once have mattered as little to our cooks and diners as a dearth of asafetida, biltong or cloudberry. But nothing has changed so much in recent times, not even the Labour Party, as have the customs in our kitchens. Now, reports of impending olive oil scarcity are more likely to induce alarm, even panic-buys at supermarkets of this most Mediterranean of modern obsessions.

A shortage of the golden-green stuff, make no mistake, is upon us; and the implications are not trivial. Olive oil, available not so long ago only at Boots the Chemist — for such vital purposes as cleaning wax from small boys' ears — is now a supermarket staple. Where once we fried in fat, dripping and lard, we now drizzle our food with olive oil: on salad (rocket, of course), in fresh fish, on aubergines, lamb and lentils, we use this lubricant liberally, both for its finer taste and for the better health it brings us. And where previous generations — going back, in some cases, a long way — came to adopt tea, coffee, chocolate and wine, the present generation is coating itself in olive oil.

With the exception of Paul Gascoigne, who acquired a fondness for Mediterranean cuisine while playing poorly for Lazio, the taste for the oil is largely a middle-class matter. In fact, no definition of that class

would now be complete if it failed to take account of olive oil — the cooking-medium and salad-dressing seems as much a social determinant as educational and professional accomplishment, or sensible moral values.

The widespread belief that John Major is losing the support of the country's middle classes — and that Tony Blair is gaining it — may be due more to the following reason than to any other. Mr Blair gives the unmistakable impression that he is the sort of chap who uses olive oil daily: this makes him a man one can relate to. Forget "stakeholders" and other kinds of political dripping, just look at what the man dips his ciabatta into. Mr Major looks and sounds as if he has never tasted a single-estate Tuscan oil in his life. Warm ale and warm butter are out, say the swing voters. They want Olive Oil Man.

There is no evidence, of course, that a regular diet of olive oil makes for more efficient governance: look at Italy, Spain and Greece. Mr Major, in fact, might turn the bottle on his Labour opponent by smearing him with Islington's favourite. "Do you really want a man who fries his fish in olive oil?" he might tell a crowd in Basildon or Barnsley. "No," they will cry, in great derision. Meanwhile, in Islington and Isleworth they will scurry to the nearest supermarket to stock up for the drier days ahead.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Royal prerogative on BBC selection

From Mr Leonard Miall

Sir, The suggestion by Sir Paul Fox (letter, January 11) that the chairman of the BBC should be chosen from a list approved by a group of senior Privy Counsellors representing all parties, rather than nominated by the government of the day, is wise. It would also close a notable gap between theory and practice.

The chairman of the BBC, which has a royal charter, cannot be removed from office for political reasons. He is appointed by the Queen in Council, that is to say by the Monarch with at least four Privy Counsellors present, rather than directly by the Government. This important distinction has again been overlooked.

Sir Alec Douglas-Home made a point of consulting the Opposition before recommending to Her Majesty that Lord Normanbrook should be the next BBC chairman. This was the last time such a consultation occurred.

When Harold Wilson's plan to switch Lord Hill of Loxton overnight from the Independent Television Authority to the BBC as Normanbrook's successor leaked, the appointment was immediately announced from 10 Downing Street.

The luckless Postmaster-General, Edward Short, had to pretend that the Queen had appointed Hill at an emergency meeting of the Privy Council held in her box at Goodwood races that afternoon. In fact she was put in the invidious position of having to rubber-stamp Hill's already announced appointment at a regular Privy Council meeting at Buckingham Palace two days later.

Marmaduke Hussey's first appointment as BBC chairman was also given out from Downing Street before a recommendation had been sent to the Privy Council.

And now they have done it again! Virginia Bottomley, who only has the power to recommend the appointment of Sir Christopher Bland, has arrogantly usurped the Queen's prerogative by announcing it as a *fait accompli* (report, January 10) before it has even been submitted to the Queen in Council.

This is discourteous, if not *lèse-majesté*.

Yours faithfully,  
LEONARD MIALL,  
Mayfield Cottage, High Street,  
Taplow, Maidenhead, Berkshire,  
January 13.

From Mr John Wilkinson

Sir, Sir Paul Fox suggests that a senior all-party group of Privy Counsellors should be empowered to see a list of suitable candidates and then make the appointment. This is already the constitutional position in the 1981 charter: the chairman and all the governors of the BBC are appointed by the Queen in Council on the advice of the Government.

Traditionally, the Prime Minister always consulted the Leader of the Opposition first. This has not happened in recent years, with resultant suspicions that political appointments are being made.

Apart from the risk to the independence of the BBC, prime ministerial appointments without consultation are unfair to the chairman and governors, particularly when they have to demonstrate political impartiality.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHNNY WILKINSON  
(Secretary to the BBC, 1977-80),  
Compass Cottage,  
Box, Minchinhampton,  
Stroud, Gloucestershire,  
January 13.

### Trust House memories

From Mr Patrick Cox

Sir, In all the press coverage of the Granada bid for Forte (letters, January 13) I have read little concerning present or future customers of the hotels and eating-places involved.

I recall with fond memories the old Trust House and the merger with Forte and subsequent absorption by them. Customers were not pleased with the resultant cutting of staff, portions and corners by a group built up from a milk bar, so we believed.

History is now repeating itself. Fortunately there are other establishments for us punters to patronise.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK COX,  
Hollybourn, Bankfoot, Perth.

### Healing myrrh

From the Very Reverend Canon J. Cunnane

Sir, How pleasant that science validates (report, January 4) what has always been accepted in the East — i.e. that myrrh has powerful health-giving properties.

Western Christians regard myrrh as foreshadowing Christ's death, because of its use in embalming, but Eastern Churches associate it with healing, and see it as symbolising Christ as healer of mankind.

This is manifest in Jerusalem's Old City, where the St Benedictus Poly-clinic, by the Greek Orthodox Patri-archate, daily serves the medical needs of the poor. It is in the care of the Society of Myrrh-bearers.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES CUNNANE,  
Church of Our Lady of the Taper,  
Cardigan, Dyfed.

### Seeking relief from the misfortunes of the 'fourth age'

From the Chairman of Research into Ageing

Sir, Your timely series, "The science of ageless ageing" (January 8-11), could with advantage have given greater emphasis to the benefits which research can bring.

For those of our members who are approaching the "fourth age", having successfully negotiated their sixth and seventh decades, it is not ageing *per se* that is of concern: it is the likelihood of the onset of debilitating diseases and disabilities that destroy quality of life and independence.

High priority must be given to challenging dementia, blindness, incontinence, immobility and the other afflictions of old age. The scientists and medical professionals require greatly increased financial support in order to conduct the research which will help to ensure that the increasing number of 80, 90 and 100-year-olds enjoy their extra years.

May we also take you up on one point of detail. Macular degeneration — the loss of central vision — does not necessarily result in blindness, as implied in "Why sight fades with time" (January 10). Sufferers retain peripheral vision, but they can become registered as blind, which helps them to gain access to supplies, services and benefits. Devices are available which can make the most of the remaining vision, helping particularly with reading and watching television.

Yours faithfully,  
THOMAS GRIFFIN, Chairman,  
Research into Ageing,  
Baird House,  
15-17 St Cross Street, EC1,  
January 11.

From Mr C. H. Naylor

Sir, Many surgeons are worried by the statistics which show an increased incidence in cancer of the breast among women who take hormone re-

placement therapy following the menopause and indicate that the risk increases with the duration of the therapy (article, January 11). However, the commonest cause of death following the menopause is a heart attack. It is generally accepted that HRT significantly protects a woman from dying from a heart attack. Therefore it follows that women taking HRT will live longer. In these extra years death from other conditions such as cancer of the breast will become more apparent.

Yours faithfully,  
C. H. NAYLOR  
(Consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist),  
116 Harley Street, W1,  
January 11.

From Mr Alan Challoner

Sir, Jane Gordon looks in pretty good shape to me, no matter which part of middle age she assumes herself to be in ("The older woman's tale", January 8). I was sad to read her self-depre- cation; for what may have been lost in

youthfulness is surely made up for by the comforts of maturity.

Even more sad was the plight of 16-year-old Dominic, described as sitting on a hot day last summer in a graffiti-covered "Love Shack", his floor littered with empty cans of beer and abandoned packets of cigarettes.

What will be left of Dominic's youthfulness when he is Jane Gordon's age? Even more pertinent, will he still be around?

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN CHALLONER,  
13 The Village, Bodolwyddan, Clwyd,  
January 8.

From Mr Philip Dinnage

Sir, All this talk of hormone replacement therapy and libido.

There is an alternative cocktail available, which can be taken several times a day. Affection, warmth, support, praise, kisses and caresses. Free but, sadly, often in short supply.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP DINNAGE,  
10 Gorings Mead, Horsham, Sussex.

### Making light of it

From Mrs Jane Crease

Sir, I think it rather hard that you should illustrate your article of January 11 on the benefits of water to the ageing process with a photograph of a model who must surely be in her teens. I would be more persuaded if the figure leaping athletically in her swimsuit were a granny of 70.

Yours faithfully,  
JANE CREASE,  
Deer Park, Scampston,  
Malton, North Yorkshire.

From Mr Peter McGregor

Sir, When I was a young man I was sometimes rather surprised by what respondents to surveys of male sexual

activity said they could do. Now that I am an old man I am very surprised about what they say they cannot do ("Men can recover the passion of youth", January 9).

Yours faithfully,  
PETER MCGREGOR,  
Dacre Cottage,  
Longworth, Oxfordshire.

From Mr Cedric Hayes

Sir, I was gratified to read today that at my age, I am capable of sexual union once a week. All I need now is the opportunity.

Yours faithfully,  
CEDRIC HAYES,  
14 Thurlough Road,  
Didsbury, Manchester,  
January 9.

### Labour's latest words and policies

From Mr George Scates

Sir, Frank Field, MP ("Staking a claim to power", January 9; see also letters, January 11 and 13), asks whether "stakeholding" is just another buzzword. Sadly, yes. It has merely replaced the 1945 original Labour buzzword "nationalisation" which many believed could replace capitalism without sacrificing efficiency.

Workers, trade union leaders and Labour politicians all believed that public ownership would remove the "them-us" stigma, avoid the need to strike and offer workers the incentive they needed to increase productivity.

It did none of those things: the abuse of power by the bosses was replaced by the abuse of power by the unions, productivity fell to an all-time low and the number of strikes became an international object of scorn. Stakeholding will fail for the same reason nationalisation did: it offers rewards for success but no penalties for failure.

Big wins on the lottery are only possible if there are also millions of lottery losers. Privatising the nationalised industries and allowing council tenants to buy their properties at a fraction of their market value, far from selling off the family silver, was in fact returning to taxpayers the money taken from them. Tony Blair should repeat 100 times the North Country saying, "You can't get out for now".

Yours etc,  
GEORGE SCATES,  
Cobbler's Pieces,  
Abbeystead, Ongar, Essex.

### Lines of inquiry

From Dr Daniel Dorling

Sir, I am grateful to Mr Ben Olds (letter, January 9) for his interest in my research on the average lifespan of people according to the wealth in their locality, and am also glad that he has managed to amass some wealth himself.

However, a key finding of the research was that continuing to amass wealth over a certain level (approximately £40,000) displayed diminishing returns in terms of benefit to health.

Mr Olds expressed an interest in further research on the relationship between lifespan and living in inner cities or rural suburbs and by a person's profession. Evidence for both of

these relationships is contained in my recently published *A New Social Atlas of Britain* (report, September 28, 1995).

Neither relationship appears to be as strong as that found with wealth, perhaps because one's location or profession are less accurate indicators of one's position in the social hierarchy than is wealth.

Almost no matter how you measure it, the rich tend to live longer lives than the poor, but the very rich tend not to benefit greatly from their additional wealth. It is thus not inconceivable that if we lived in a more equal society we would all, on average, live longer.

Yours faithfully,  
DANIEL DORLING,  
University of Bristol,  
Department of Geography,  
University Road, Bristol, Avon.

### Watch and ward

From Mr Peter H. Jackson

Sir, If, as you report on your Business pages on January 10, the Securities and Futures Authority's investigation into the Barings crash "is now complete but for crossing the 'i's and dotting the 't's'", one cannot but wonder what care the SFA exercises in the details of its role as the watchdog for brokers and futures traders.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER H. JACKSON,  
45 Great Notley Avenue,  
Black Notley, Essex,  
January 10.

### Wonder pills

From Mr Alexander D. Osborne

Sir, My wife has been prescribed pills. According to the accompanying leaflet, possible side-effects are: sickness, diarrhoea, indigestion, loss of appetite, belching, vertigo, abdominal cramps, dizziness, stomach ulcers, bleeding from intestine or bloody diarrhoea, ulcerative colitis, sore mouth and tongue, constipation, back pains, inflammation of pancreas, mouth ulcers, skin rashes, hair loss, sensitivity to sunlight, drowsiness, tiredness, impaired hearing, difficulty with sleeping, seizures, irritability, anxiety, depression, mood changes, tremor, memory disturbances, disorientation, changes in vision, ringing in ears, bad dreams, taste alteration, allergic reactions, swelling due to water retention, palpitations, impotence or tightness of the chest.

Should she take them?  
Yours faithfully,  
ALEXANDER D. OSBORNE,  
19 Rickyard Meadow,  
Redbourn, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

From Professor Piero Dolara

Sir, Your report on our discovery of the analgesic activity of myrrh wrongly states that it took "more than five minutes" before the mice given myrrh in experiments in this clinical department felt pain from a hot metal plate.

In fact, the mice remained painless on the hot plate for an average of 14 seconds without the administration of myrrh, and for 19.4 seconds after it was administered.

In this type of test mice are never left on the plate for more than 40 seconds. This is in order to avoid unnecessary paw damage and pain.

Yours etc,  
PIERO DOLARA,  
University of Florence,  
Department of Preclinical and Clinical Pharmacology,  
Viale G. B. Morgagni,  
50134 Florence, Italy,  
January 11.

During current postal difficulties readers are urged, if possible, to fax letters for publication to 0171-782 5046. Letters should carry a daytime telephone number.







# OBITUARIES

## PROFESSOR SETON LLOYD

Professor Seton Lloyd, CBE, FBA, archaeologist, died on January 7 aged 93. He was born on May 30, 1902.

SETON LLOYD earned an international reputation as an archaeologist. Most of his work in the field took place in Iraq and in Turkey and is associated with many successful expeditions. He applied a natural artistic sensibility and draughtsman's skill to his archaeology, which was distinguished by these endowments. Industrious and methodical, he wrote more than a dozen books of which the best known was probably *Foundation in the Dust*, first published in 1947 and reissued in 1980.

Educated at Uppingham School, Seton Howard Frederick Lloyd had a natural bent for drawing which led him to study architecture. Qualifying as an architect in 1926, he joined the office of Sir Edwin Lutyens. After two years there he left to enter into a partnership which might well have led to a lifetime devoted to architecture.

Instead, however, within a year he was recruited by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. The institute at that time was organising a series of major expeditions in the Middle East, inspired by the dominant personality of J. H. Breasted who, in turn, had captured the patronage of John D. Rockefeller.

Lloyd's first major achievement in Iraq was the rediscovery, in partnership with T. Jacobsen, of a long-forgotten aqueduct at Jerwan, whence in about 700 BC Sennacherib had conducted a canal which ran for a distance of some 20 miles from Babylon on the headwaters of the River Gomel to Nineveh.

Lloyd's training as an architect enabled him to appreciate and expound with a rare insight the technical achievements of the ancient Assyrian hydraulic engineers. His drawings and observations were embodied in an exemplary publication which appeared in 1935.

Thereafter Lloyd enhanced his archaeological reputation by his invaluable collaboration in work which his Chicago expeditions were then conducting in the Diyala Valley, north of Baghdad — principally by his excavation of the Shara Temple at Tell Agrab and the Abu Temple at Tell Asmar. This work was of cardinal importance for our understanding of Early Dynastic Babylonia, 3000-2300 BC, and the relation of it was incorporated in a volume entitled *Pre-Sargonic Temples in the Diyala Region* (1942), and in a second volume written in collaboration with Frankfort and Jacobsen under the title *The Girsu Temple and the Palace of the Rulers at Tell Asmar* (1940).

After the death of Breasted many of



the American expeditions were either closed down or curtailed and Lloyd left Iraq in order to join John Garstang's expeditions to Mersin in southern Turkey, 1937-39. For the next ten years his services were devoted to Iraq as technical adviser to the Directorate General of Antiquities. During this time he was fully engaged in supervising the organisation of the Antiquities Department in Iraq and in training a new generation of Iraqis for the sole responsibility in administration. For these services alone he deserves considerable credit. But he also in this decade assisted, in partnership with his Iraqi colleagues, particularly with Fuad Safar, in several major excavations, notably at Eridu, the most important post-diluvian city in Babylonia.

These excavations were complementary to a smaller undertaking at Hassuna, where — once more in conjunction with Fuad Safar — he discovered a settlement which coincided with the beginnings of village life in Assyria. No less interesting were the department's excavations at Tell Uqair, not far from Babylon, where

Lloyd's highly skilled field technique succeeded in salvaging painted murals from a temple which had been erected in about 3000 BC. Lloyd's own wide architectural interests appear from his excavation report on the early Islamic mosque at Wasit.

On the retirement of John Garstang, he became Director of the British Institute of Archaeology in Ankara, Turkey, a post which he occupied with distinction from 1949 to 1961. He was appointed CBE in 1949, advanced to CBE in 1959 and was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1955.

His work in Turkey led to further notable discoveries. Together with D. Storm Rice, he conducted a new survey of Harran and this led to the discovery by the latter of the memorial stelae of the mother of Nabonidus, last King of Babylon, a venerable old lady who lived to the age of 104 and was buried with the pomp and ceremony due to a priestess of the Harran Moon Temple. Lloyd also made fruitful soundings at the site of Sultantepe some miles to the north, where he exposed a large building of the

Assyrian period, which revealed contemporary cuneiform tablets and fragments of ivories which indicated that the site would be of great promise for further excavations.

Lloyd's most important work in Turkey was, however, conducted at the western end of Asia Minor, in the ancient district of Arzawa, a vassal state and sometimes an enemy of the Hittites. Here he selected for excavation a site named Beyce Sultan, situated in the valley of the River Maeander, and discovered a series of Bronze Age palaces, intricate and spacious in ground-plan, no less elaborate than the Minoan palaces of Crete. Lloyd's premature conclusion — that one of these buildings might have been planned by a Cretan architect after the fall of Knossos — was not accepted and was not pressed by himself in the final account. It seems more likely that the Beyce palaces were native developments in accord with the architectural canon that had long prevailed in that country.

A discussion of the site, which was founded in prehistoric times, inevitably provides a debating ground for scholars in search of Lyvians, Greek-speakers and even Achaeans. It was, therefore, disappointing that no documents were found to illuminate the record which had probably been written on wooden and waxed tablets and had long ago perished. There were forests in the countryside and it is thus not surprising that much evidence of timber construction was found.

From 1965 onwards Seton Lloyd was engaged in the excavation of a magnificent Urartian fortress named Kayalidere, which was situated not far from Mush in eastern Turkey; a township of great interest because its fortunes could be closely linked with those of its greater rival and powerful enemy, Assyria. It was a disappointment for archaeology that this work, so happily inaugurated, later had to be suspended.

Lloyd was in 1962 elected to the chair of Western Asiatic Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University of London. In his seven years in this post students were very fortunate to benefit from his wide experience.

After his retirement in 1969 Lloyd continued to write and to travel. He returned to Iraq and visited Iran. He and his wife Ulrica, whose maiden name was Hyde and who was known to everyone as Hyde, always provided a warm welcome to ex-students. Lloyd's memoirs, based on letters to his mother and to Hyde during their periods of separation, appeared in 1987 under the title *The Interval*. A further book, *Ancient Turkey*, came out in 1989.

His wife, whom he had married in 1944, died in 1987. He is survived by two sons and one daughter.

## SIR MAXWELL HARPER GOW

Sir Maxwell Harper Gow, MBE, businessman, died on January 1 aged 77. He was born on June 13, 1918.



MAX HARPER GOW was well known as one of the outstanding Scottish men of business of the post-war era. Paradoxically, however, it was outside Scotland that most of the diversification and growth of his company — Christian Salvesen — was achieved.

The company had been founded by his maternal great-grandfather and was firmly established in the fields of shipping and whaling by the next two generations of the family; but it was not until after the end of the Second World War, when the young Harper Gow joined the business, that its direction started to change.

Whaling and shipping had been good, profitable fields but their future looked progressively uncertain and the time for diversification was at hand. With the support of a far-sighted chairman and a substantial accumulation of resources, Harper Gow pioneered this process. Starting with factory ships designed and equipped to catch and freeze fish at sea, he moved onto cold stores on land for the storage of fish and other perishable foodstuffs, and from there into the freezing of vegetables in factories located at these cold stores.

A Rugby schoolboy and a Cambridge graduate, who became a major in the Commandos during the war, Leonard Maxwell Harper Gow got on well with all ranks and gave his trust to those he liked. He was appointed MBE in 1944.

He owed his inside track at Christian Salvesen to his mother (a Miss Salvesen before her marriage to his father) and there was always something of "the young master" about him. Sometimes this led him to acquire, or invest in, companies which had little

synergy with his own firm's mainstream activities. But few of these investments — whether in housebuilding, brickmaking or drilling for offshore oil — failed to make an adequate return.

In addition to his responsibilities with Christian Salvesen, of which he was chairman from 1964 to 1981 and vice-chairman from 1981 to 1987, Harper Gow took on a number of outside non-executive directorships. He was on the board of the Royal Bank of Scotland for 22 years and was a director of Radio Forth from the moment of its foundation in 1973 until just six years ago. He was also an originator and leader of the Unquoted Companies Group, a small committee formed during the 1970s by some of the non-

public UK companies which did useful work in preaching to Whitehall the significance to the economy of private companies. The group commissioned research into the reform of trade union law because it saw such reform as the precondition for restoring industrial health to the United Kingdom. Harper Gow was knighted on the nomination of Margaret Thatcher in 1985.

In his younger days he had been a first-class shot and was the enthusiastic owner of a winning steeplechaser. Latterly he derived great pleasure from his hill farm in the Etrick Forest which he took pride in showing to his band of devoted friends.

He is survived by his wife Lillian, a daughter and two sons.

## TEENY DUCHAMP

Teeny Duchamp, widow of Marcel Duchamp, died in Villiers-sous-Grzy, France, on December 20 aged 89. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1906.

Matisse, and the marriage was dissolved.

She had been slightly acquainted with Marcel Duchamp for some time before Max Ernst and Dorothea Tanning brought them together over a game of chess in 1952. Her marriage to him two years later, when she was 48 and he 67, was a very happy one.

Duchamp had already achieved almost legendary status by the time of their wedding. His present to his new wife was the third in a trilogy of erotic sculptures

the secret object inside the twine. When in 1963 a series of limited editions of Duchamp's 1935 *Rotoreliefs* (optical discs) were recreated, she helped her husband to assemble them.

Art aside, they shared many interests, the most important being chess (although, once Duchamp had taught her to play, they made a pact never to pit their wits against each other). In 1968 she and Duchamp collaborated with the composer John Cage in *Reunion*, a legendary but long-winded and pretentious chess game piece staged at the Ryerson Polytechnic High School, Toronto. A special chess board was built to include a system of photo-electric cells that registered the chess moves with a series of different sounds. An outraged audience vented its opinion by voting with its feet — the auditorium was empty long before the piece was over.

Later that year Duchamp died and four years later Teeny moved back to France to Villiers-sous-Grzy. Her last visit to England was as guest of honour, with John Cage, at the Tate Gallery symposium *Art and Chess* in 1991. She was also the guest of honour at the qualifying chess matches held in Brussels last year where in a match between Nigel Short, the English chess champion, and Gelfand whom he beat, the receptacle from which each contestant drew the colour he was to play was a replica of Duchamp's *Urinal*.

After her death her ashes were interred beside his in a tomb which bore Duchamp's chosen inscription: "Besides, it's always the others who die."

Teeny Duchamp is survived by three children from her first marriage. Her daughter and one of her two sons are artists.



entitled *Wedge of Chastity*. As the recipient of the two interlocking pieces of plaster which made up this sculpture, she was intended to become part of the very fabric of Duchamp's work.

In Duchamp's 1957 *Waistcoat*, the five buttons each bear her name and in 1964 when replicas of Duchamp's "ready-made" *With Hidden Noise* — two squares of brass with a ball of twine between them within which something to which Duchamp was not privy was hidden — were created it was Teeny who put

## JOYCE BALDWIN CAINE

Joyce Baldwin Caine, theological educator and writer, died on December 30 aged 74. She was born on August 1, 1921.

JOYCE BALDWIN CAINE was one of the leading Evangelical women scholars of her day. Although she would have been a remarkable woman in any context, what was so exceptional about Joyce Caine was her determination to develop those gifts in herself which the Church of England did not traditionally value in women. She championed the cause of women's ministry by example as well as by her influential writing and teaching.

Joyce Baldwin, as she was before marriage, began her professional career in Lancashire as a teacher of modern languages and religious education, but as a student she was attracted to missionary work in China. In 1947 she was accepted for training by the China Inland Mission, and chose to combine this with studying for the London Diploma in Theology. It was a move which surprised her fellow CIM students, partly because the combined courses were a heavy burden, but chiefly because academic training was considered unnecessary for women missionaries. This disregard for convention was to prove typical of her.

She travelled to China in 1949. Only four weeks after she joined the CIM language

school in Chongqing, the People's Liberation Army took control. Communist restrictions eventually forced CIM to withdraw its missionaries and so Joyce Baldwin left China in 1951. Her initial seven-year stint of service had been dramatically curtailed and she returned home weakened by dysentery. She never enjoyed robust health again.

In 1956, after discovering that her damaged health prevented further work for CIM in Malaya, she took up a lecturing post at Dalton House in Bristol, where women trained to be missionaries or Anglican parish workers. The move was decisive for her future career.

Joyce Baldwin taught Old Testament, Philosophy and Ethics to prepare women for the London Diploma in Theology and London University's external Bachelor of Divinity degree. While teaching full-time, she obtained her own divinity degree and subsequently became Vice-Principal and later Principal of Dalton House. In 1964, at a time when women biblical scholars were a rare breed, especially in the Evangelical fold, Baldwin published her first paper in an academic journal. Two years later she began work on the first of six commentaries on books of the Old Testament.

In 1972 Dalton House merged with two men's colleges in Bristol to form Trinity College. One third of the students in this new institution were women, and four



women tutors from Dalton House comprised a third of the staff. Joyce Baldwin became Dean of Women, a position which theoretically gave her full responsibility for women students. In practice, however, she discovered that her decisions could be countermanded by male colleagues, a situation symptomatic of the marginalised status of women in the Church at large.

Baldwin addressed the issues of women's ministry in the Church of England in a

booklet published in 1973. Among other things, she argued from careful exegesis that biblical passages often thought to exclude women from ministry actually implied no such thing. She was a member of the Movement for the Ordination of Women and arranged two of its Bristol conferences. She had seen women's abilities given freedom to develop in missionary work overseas and in secular teaching, and regarded the situation in the Church as not

only unscriptural but also illogical and unjust. She made her views known firmly but always without bitterness and often with gentle humour.

In 1981 the Principal of Trinity College, the Rev Alec Motyer, retired and the Rev Dr George Carey (now the Archbishop of Canterbury) was appointed to replace him, but could not take up the post until 1982. Although on the brink of retirement, Joyce Baldwin was persuaded to stay on as Principal for the intervening year. She held the post alongside that of Dean of Women.

The day before her retirement in 1982 she received a telephone call from a man she had known as a teenager but had not seen for 42 years. She and Jack Caine arranged to meet and the following year they were married. Baldwin was writing her commentary on the Book of Esther at the time, and remarked that the extraordinary coincidences in that biblical book became entirely credible in the light of events in her own life.

The freedom of retirement and the support of her husband released a fresh spirit of writing. In 1987 she was among the first women to be ordained to the diaconate of the Church of England. However, in 1994, when ordination to the priesthood became open to women, she did not go forward, feeling that her calling had already been fulfilled.

She is survived by her husband.

## Church appointments

### Appointments

The Rev Jackie Hughes, Assistant Curate (NS), to be Curate (NS), West Midlands Ministerial Training Course, the Queen's College, Birmingham.

The Rev Robert Leach, Assistant Curate, St Lawrence, Tewkesbury, to be Priest in Charge of St Lawrence, Cowley (London).

The Rev Trevor Magstone, Assistant Curate, St Thomas Lancaster (Blackburn), to be Vicar, Trinity St Michael, Harrow (London). The Rev Sheila Nuaney, Curate, Waltham, Norwich, to be Chaplain's Assistant in the Norfolk and Norwich, West Norfolk and Colman Hospitals (Norfolk and Norwich Healthcare NHS Trust) (Norwich).

The Rev Roderick Thorp, Vicar in the Eke Valley Team, to be Priest in Charge of Dalton, Kildesley with Gwladys and Monkschampton (Aber).

The Rev Trevor Rhodes, Canon, Koforidua and Vicar of Danby with Castleton, to be Priest in Charge, the parish of the Good Shepherd, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland (Durham).

The Rev Richard Spencer has the Bishop's permission to officiate in the diocese of Birmingham.

The Rev Ruth Waring, Curate, Tavistock and Gwladys, to be Vicar in the Axminster Team (Exeter).

Canon John Wesson, Rector, St Martin-in-the-Bull-Ring, Birmingham, to be Director of CAME and POT Training (Lichfield). The Rev Anthony Whalley, Rector, Newton Longville, Stoke Hamond and Whaddon, to be Rector, Winkfield with Great Horwood and Addington (Oxford).

The Rev John White, Vicar of Chapelthorpe, to be also Rural Dean of Chevet (Wakefield). Canon G T Willett, Rector of Markfield and Rural Dean of

Sparkenhoe East Denney, to be Priest in Charge of Thornton, Bugworth and Stanton (Leicester). The Rev Frederick Williams, Vicar of Killingham, to be Rector, Warrington and Thorpe Bassett, to be Curate at Rural Dean of Buckrose for a further period of five years (York).

The Rev Paul Wilson, Vicar, Buckdasleigh with Dean Pylor (Exeter), to be Priest in Charge of Stockland, Dalwood, Kilmington and Shute (Exeter).

Resignations and retirements

The Rev John V Andrews, Rector, Seaton Ross Group of Parishes, to retire at the end of October 1996 (York).

The Rev David Baker, Vicar, Baldersley with Dalton, Dishforth and Skipton on Swale, to retire on July 1, 1996 (York).

The Rev John S Barnes, Vicar, Bentley, to retire on January 31, 1996 (Lichfield).

The Rev Keith Ellwood, Priest-in-Charge, Colwalltham (Chichester), retired on December 31, 1995.

Canon David Fricker, Rector, Brightling, Dallington, Mountfield and Netherfield, and Rural Dean of Dallington (Chichester), retired as Rural Dean on December 31, 1995.

The Rev Charles Kerr, Vicar, St Mark, Anlaby Common, resigned December 31, 1995 (York). Canon Alan Treherne, Team Rector, St Stephen, Gateacre, to retire on April 7, 1996 (Liverpool).

The Rev Thomas Willis, Vicar, Bridlington Holy Trinity and Sewerby with Marton (York) to retire on October 31, 1996.

Canon John Wilson, Rector, Holy Trinity, Horfield (Bristol) to retire on June 15, 1996.

The Rev Richard Spencer, Christian Aid Area Secretary and World Development Officer, has resigned with effect from November 30, 1995 (Birmingham).

## NEW SONGS OF PURCELL

### HIS INFINITE VARIETY.

Dr Arthur Somervell has done a very good thing in editing and publishing as one of Messrs. Novello's handy series of song albums, "Seventeen Songs by Purcell". None of these is a song which everybody knows, and some of them are songs which nobody knows, because they have never been published.

The chief good of Dr. Somervell's volume is that it puts into the hands of every singer who has the wish to sing Purcell some of the most delightful specimens of his genius, and offers them in a practicable form, which is a very different thing from the library edition of the Purcell Society. It is a reprint of English music lovers that that society, founded 50 years ago, has not yet been able to complete its long-delayed complete edition solely for lack of funds to print and publish.

Perhaps the Purcell Society itself might have avoided reproach if it had taken a less academic view of its responsibilities and had concentrated not only on the production of a library edition, but had adopted a policy akin to that of Dr. Fellers' "English Madrigal School" and the Carnegie Trust's " Tudor Music", both of which issue cheap performing

## ON THIS DAY

January 15, 1927



The recent Purcell celebrations might seem to suggest that this great English composer did not receive his due in earlier times, but there have always been those who were anxious that his reputation should grow and his works become more widely known.

editions concurrently with the collective one. We believe, in fact, that the musical public today needs its Purcell far more than the Purcell Society knows, not for the shelves of a reference library, but to play and sing. Dr. Somervell's position in the Board of Education puts him in touch with the need, and it is certain that anyone who plays or sings the 17 songs in this volume will have an appetite whetted for the other 93 in the forthcoming volume of the Purcell Society's edition.

It must not be thought because of Dr. Somervell's position that this volume is one of songs for school-children. There are just one

or two of the number which might be useful in the higher school classes, but in the main they are very grown-up songs indeed. Purcell himself was a singer of a high order. It is reported that he sang the very elaborate alto (counters-tenor) songs in the first performance of his own "Ode on Saint Cecilia's Day" with "incredible grace", and many of these songs, notably "Ah! what pains" (now published for the first time), demand from the singer that power of "gracing" which was characteristic of English song in the 17th century and became a lost art when the Italian *coloratura* supplanted it in the 18th century.

The revival of these songs must mean the revival of Purcell's own style of singing, of which the average singing teacher and professional singer have remained in lamentable ignorance for about two centuries.

But even singers whose graces are "incredible" in a sense very different from that in which the word was applied to Purcell's own performance may find something they can sing, and will be the better for singing, in the exquisitely moulded but quite straightforward melodies of "Ollinda", "If music be the food of love" (not Shakespeare's, but a paraphrase on his text), "On the brow of Richmond Hill" and "I fain would be free" (another of those now first published).



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